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OPINION METER

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Summer Camp

The Division of Youth Services holds a Summer Youth Leadership Camp in Kagman.

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Cory Tribune

Filipinos pay tribute Sunday to democracy icon Corazon Aquino.

ASIA...Page 15



6M Downloads

The Black Eyed Peas have more proof of the ubiquity of "I Gotta Feeling."

LIFE & STYLE...Page 19

Staffers complain vs LB chief Reyes

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Some Legislative Bureau staffers have asked Senate President Paul A. Manglona (R-Rota) and House Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) to not renew the contract of LB director Glenna SP. Reyes over allegations of biased and unfair treatment of staffers.

See STAFFERS on Page 4



By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos approved the release of some 4,000 child tax credit checks totaling a little over \$4 million yesterday, three weeks after the CNMI government submitted a certification to the U.S. Treasury.

Inos, a former Finance secretary, said the U.S. Treasury approved the certification and the CNMI government received the funds over the weekend.

The over \$4 million in child tax credit is just the first batch. Inos said the CNMI Department of Finance will again submit another round of certification application to the U.S. Treasury.

See CHILD TAX on Page 4

Some 4,000 child tax credit checks worth over \$4M out



532 members withdraw Fund contributions

» 139 percent jump in last 3 months; \$4.1M paid out

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

As of July 31, a total of 532 members

have withdrawn their contributions from the NMI Retirement Fund—a 139-percent increase from April's 223 withdrawals.

With two more months before the end of the fiscal year, the Fund expects the number to go even higher, resulting in more payouts.

See MEMBERS on Page 4

HAPPY CAMPERS

Participants and volunteers for the Ridge to Reef Rangers 2010 pose for a group photo during their culmination activity at the American Memorial Park last Friday.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

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Babauta files candidacy for US delegate race. PAGE 2

'Results of public hearing on alien worker status to be given to Congress' PAGE 4



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Local

Babauta files candidacy for the US delegate race

» Former governor also shares talk with DOD deputy secretary

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Joined by throngs of family and supporters, Republican Party candidate Juan N. Babauta filed yesterday his certificate of candidacy for the U.S. delegate seat, which is up for election on Nov. 2.

While at the Commonwealth Election Commission, the former governor also used the opportunity to share his one-on-one talk with Deputy



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Former governor Juan N. Babauta, standing seventh from left, joins his supporters for a group photo in front of the Commonwealth Election Commission office in Susupe yesterday morning, right after filing his candidacy for the non-voting delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives race in the Nov. 2 election.

Defense Secretary William J. Lynn III during the federal official's visit to Guam and the CNMI last week.

Babauta said he met the second top U.S. defense official at the University of Guam after Lynn's presentation on the ongoing preparations for the military buildup on the island.

In the conversation that lasted some 5 to 10 minutes, Babauta said he was informed about the desired limited use of Tinian for military activities.

"It seems like the military is not committed to a full blown presence on Tinian," said Babauta, adding that Lynn did not commit to building permanent infrastructure on the island until it is proven necessary.

The recently released Final Environmental Impact Statement had identified the need to construct four firing ranges on Tinian.

Babauta said that Lynn confirmed this but admitted that the possibility of building a small-scale air base on Tinian is still on the table.

Babauta, for his part, described the limited military presence on Tinian as a "blessing in disguise" as it will be enough to create jobs for the island's residents.

During Lynn's presentation, Babauta said the official assured the military's commitment to the realignment of U.S. forces and has recognized the sacrifices and the contributions of the islands in defending the nation's freedom. Discussions were more centered on Guam as this will be the focus of the military transfer from Okinawa, Japan.

'Ironic'

Babauta, the second to file his candidacy to date, described as ironic and paradoxical the news report that labeled U.S. Rep. Gregorio Sablan (D-MP) as the "hungriest" among U.S.

lawmakers.

"It's kinda ironic and a paradox. Way earlier it was reported that the CNMI is the poorest and now he's reported as the hungriest. I think it's unfortunate they have to put CNMI in the news on something like that. I would rather see CNMI in the news because it did something good for the country or the CNMI... but that kind of news puts a bad taste in our people...in respect to the image we want to project in Washington," said Babauta.

The GOP candidate said he is confident in his chances in the November election, citing the 12 years he served as the CNMI's Washington representative.

"I offer experience and I think Washington is not a strange place for me. I've been there for 12 years and I know can serve our people a lot better in that position," he said.

"Even though I was from the outside looking in...without a seat at the table, I was able to bring home a lot of benefits to the CNMI."

The CNMI was granted a non-voting delegate seat in the U.S. Congress only in May 2008 with the passage of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act, which also placed the islands' immigration system under federal control. Before this, the CNMI only had a non-voting Washington representative, a position that was not officially a part of Congress.

Babauta declined to respond, however, when asked to identify his strongest opponent this November.

GOP president Juan Tenorio, who is also chairman of the Committee to Elect Juan N. Babauta, is confident in Babauta's victory.

He said Babauta's close affiliation with members of the U.S. Congress is proof of his accomplishments as Washington representative for 12 years.

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It's crunch time for austerity and budget bills

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

With less than two months to go before the end of Fiscal Year 2010 on Sept. 30, the CNMI Legislature has yet to pass the contentious austerity bill that will cut work hours from 80 to 72 per pay period, and the FY 2011 budget of \$132 million.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial submitted his FY 2011 budget proposal to the Legislature by the April 1 deadline.

"It's now up to the Legislature," Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos said yesterday in an interview.

House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Ramon Basa (Cov-Saipan) said he will be pre-filing the FY 2011 budget bill later this week.

He said the budget bill, which has some 35 pages, "pretty much reflects the governor's budget submission."

"It's common practice that agencies ask for more than what the governor submitted for them. But we just can't accommodate everybody's re-

quest for more money," Basa told *Saipan Tribune*.

The CNMI government will be forced to shut down if no budget is enacted for FY 2011 following the ratification of House Legislative Initiative 16-11 in the Nov. 7, 2009 general elections.

The initiative removed the provision for a continuing budget resolution and bars any withdrawals from the general funds except through legislative appropriations. It also suspends the salaries of lawmakers if no

budget is passed on time.

Austerity bill

House Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) postponed yesterday afternoon the House session set this morning "because the austerity bill is not ready."

The session will be rescheduled either for Thursday or Friday.

The Senate members of the Conference Committee on House Bill 17-45 have yet to approve the latest version of the austerity bill.

Basa said House members of the conference committee have already agreed to the latest version of the austerity bill, which gives agency and department heads the flexibility to cut work hours by eight per pay period depending on their agency's requirements.

"We are ready but the House can't act on the bill without Senate members' approval," he said.

Basa's committee held a closed-door meeting yesterday afternoon both on the austerity

bill and the budget bill.

The lieutenant governor also met with senators past 4pm yesterday to talk about the Fitial administration's position on the austerity bill.

"I felt we made the case, and our recent experience on the delay in the payroll...made the case. We're not out of the woods here, so to speak. And 2011 will bring greater challenge, but they're deliberating [on the bills]," Inos said right before meeting with the senators.

Senate President Paul A. Manglona (R-Rota) said a vote on the austerity bill will be up to

individual senator.

The Senate is set to hold a session on Thursday morning.

Inos reminded that the current austerity bill's version still does not include the unpaid holidays which are included in the governor's budget submission.

"HB 17-45 is strictly just hour reduction. The missing part at least from the standpoint of the governor's submission is unpaid holidays. The budget must be balanced. If they can balance it with the austerity bill without the holidays, that's what we're working on. We're trying to balance the budget," he added.

Convicted sex offender not listed on registry

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Henry M. San Nicolas, an employee of the Tinian Mayor's Office who faces charges in federal court for distributing methamphetamine or "ice," had a prior sexual abuse conviction involving a minor but is not registered with the CNMI Sex Offender Registry.

Currently out on bail, San Nicolas has been assigned to work at the Tinian Public Library in an administrative position, according to U.S. Probation Office's Deputy Chief Grace D. Flores.

In her report filed in the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Friday, Flores recommended the issuance of summons for San Nicolas to appear in court to explain why his pre-trial release should not be revoked or its conditions modified.

Flores said San Nicolas

was twice arrested before for criminal behavior which he did not disclose to the U.S. Probation Office.

She said records revealed that on Sept. 19, 1999, San Nicolas was arrested for assault and battery, but the case was not forwarded to the CNMI's Office of the Attorney General for prosecution.

On Feb. 2, 2001, San Nicolas was again arrested for sexual

abuse of a child and was subsequently charged with three counts of sexual abuse of a child and two counts of oral copulation with a minor, she said.

San Nicolas pleaded guilty to one count of oral copulation with a minor; the remaining charges were dismissed. He was sentenced to two years in prison, all suspended, and placed on two years of probation.

Flores said that, on June 11, 2010, during a visit to Tinian, a U.S. Probation officer asked

San Nicolas why he failed to disclose this two previous arrests and prior conviction.

San Nicolas replied that he forgot, Flores said.

She said the probation officer further discovered that San Nicolas is not registered with the CNMI Sex Offender Registry.

Flores said the probation officer noted, however, that San Nicolas' criminal judgment does not order him to comply with Sex Offender Registry requirements.

Mayor's office to dismantle Liberation booths today

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

Staff of the Saipan Mayor's Office will start to dismantle today the booths that were built at the Garapan Fishing Base as part of Liberation Day festivities.

In a telephone interview yesterday with *Saipan Tribune*, Mayor Donald G. Flores said they will take apart the booths per Department of Public Land's instructions.

According to Flores, it will take them about a week to finish dismantling the booths.

DPL Secretary Oscar M. Babauta wrote to Flores on July 28, turning down Flores' request to use the site as a venue for community events like swap meets and flea markets.

In his letter, Babauta said DPL did not receive the documents and information they asked for regarding Flores' re-

quest, including liability insurance, anticipated clientele, and other proposed ventures.

Babauta also cited another request to lease the Garapan Fishing Base which he said is now being negotiated by their real estate division.

DPL also cited the use of the location for the Tuesday Night Market, where farmers sell their agricultural produce.

The Tuesday Night Market has relocated temporarily to the Kristo Rai Parish parking lot.

Farmer's association

Isidoro Cabrera, president of the Sabalu Farmers Market Association, earlier said that members of their group do not want to have the Tuesday night market in the booths not only because they block the view of motorists and the public but also the limited parking space in the area.

Flores disagrees with Cabre-

ra, saying there is a lot of space that will serve as parking areas.

He added that farmers do not have to worry about the booths blocking the view since the public knows that the Tuesday night market is always at Garapan Fishing Base.

Although they will proceed with dismantling the booths, Flores said he is still "very disappointed" with DPL's decision.

According to Flores, DPL would have made money from their proposed fee for the use of the booths.

"Too bad [DPL] didn't see this as a revenue-generating activity," he said.

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'Results of public hearing on alien worker status to be given to Congress'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Senate President Paul A. Manglona (R-Rota) said yesterday that the results of the public hearing on the long-term status of foreign workers in the CNMI will be presented to the U.S. Congress, which will decide on the U.S. Department of the Interior's recommendation to grant improved status to these alien workers.

Alleged domestic violence victim missing

The trial of a former Corrections officer in a domestic case did not push through yesterday in the Superior Court as the alleged victim could not be found for six months now.

After learning about the development, associate judge Kenneth Goven do continued the hearing for today, Tuesday, at 9am.

Assistant attorney general Shelli Neal appeared for the CNMI government. She

EOIR improves attorney discipline program

FALLS CHURCH, Va.—The Executive Office for Immigration Review announced yesterday that efforts to improve its Attorney Discipline Program are ongoing. Key regulatory and administrative initiatives include:

- Implementing new professional conduct rules for attorneys and practitioners that expanded categories of behavior that constitute misconduct;
- Creating a Deputy Disciplinary Counsel position to better handle the increasing number of complaints received annually;
- Establishing an Adjudicating Official corps, comprised of immigration judges and an administrative law judge, to preside over attorney discipline

A. Samoa effort to halt minimum wage hike foiled

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (RNZI)—American Samoa's Congressman Faleomavaega Eni Hunkin's efforts to halt annual increases in the local minimum wage have hit a snag.

A provision, attached to a bill on the Northern Marianas submerged lands, to do away with the 50 cent increases in 2010 and 2011 is on hold after a Repub-

STAFFERS

From Page 1

Reyes' contract expires on Sept. 30, 2010.

In their five-page letter to Manglona and Tenorio, the LB staffers said they want to remain anonymous for fear of losing their jobs.

Saipan Tribune talked to some of the LB staffers who signed the letter, and they asked that their names be withheld for fear of retaliation.

"We all have families and children to think about. We don't want to lose our jobs but we want the president and the speaker to look into our concerns," one of them told *Saipan Tribune*.

Reyes, when asked yesterday about the letter, said she does not want to comment on an "anonymous letter" with "unsubstantiated allegations."

She said there is a procedure for airing grievances, but to date, "no one has come forward."

Manglona said yesterday that the Senate and the House will have to jointly decide both on the letter sent by LB staffers and on Reyes' contract.

The Senate Committee on Federal Relations and Independent Agencies chaired by Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) is conducting public hearings on the status of alien workers and the Interior's report.

The last public hearing will be held Wednesday, from 6pm to 9pm, at the Kagman Community Center.

"The Interior's response to the governor's letter gives more significance to

the job of the FRIA Committee," Manglona said.

After the committee wraps up the public hearings, it will then submit a report to the Senate leadership, which in turn will provide a letter to Congress, he said.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan reiterated yesterday that Congress will not act on immigration bills this year.

"Like I said, I am here to listen to my

said the alleged victim is the legal wife of defendant Jesse R. Babauta.

Attorney Joaquin Torres is counsel for Babauta.

The Office of the Attorney General stated in the complaint that on Aug. 1, 2009, Babauta slapped the victim in the presence of a child and threatened to kill her.

The OAG said the defendant punched the victim in the head and

pushed her to the ground, causing her to scrape her knees and legs.

In March 2008, jurors found Babauta not guilty on the charge of assault with a dangerous weapon over an incident where he allegedly pointed a gun at a taxi driver.

The court found Babauta not guilty of assault and battery, but convicted him of disturbing the peace. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

pline hearings nationwide; and

- Providing Spanish-language translations of important news and information about the program.

"The goal of our Attorney Discipline Program is to preserve the fairness and integrity of immigration proceedings, maintain high professional standards among immigration practitioners, and protect the public we serve," said EOIR's acting director, Thomas Snow.

Most recently, EOIR developed a Spanish-language version of the Immigration Practitioner Complaint Form, EOIR-44, which is available online at http://www.justice.gov/eoir/eoirforms/eoir44_spanish.pdf. The EOIR-44 is a vital part of EOIR's Attorney Discipline

Program, allowing individuals to file a complaint about the conduct of an immigration attorney or representative while practicing before EOIR. EOIR expects that providing the form in Spanish will expand the agency's outreach to Spanish-only speakers, who may be vulnerable to unscrupulous immigration practitioners and who may face challenges in filing a complaint in English.

Information about EOIR's Attorney Discipline Program and the complaint process is available at <http://www.justice.gov/eoir/press/09/AttorneyDisciplineFactSheet.pdf>. EOIR's list of disciplined attorneys is available at <http://www.usdoj.gov/eoir/profcond/chart.htm>. (*PR*)

lican senator objected to the CNMI bill.

Faleomavaega says his office told the senator that this was one of the few options left to the include minimum wage language for American Samoa.

The next scheduled minimum wage increase goes into effect on Sept. 30.

The senator agreed to lift his hold on minimum wage for American Samoa

and CNMI if the submerged lands request was taken out of the CNMI bill.

However, the CNMI congressman would not agree to remove his request to convey certain submerged lands to CNMI.

Faleomavaega says in the interim they are working to attach the minimum wage language to some other bill.

"We have yet to discuss about this," Manglona said.

In January, Tenorio asked Reyes to step down immediately because a new Legislature was sworn into office on Jan. 11, 2010.

Manglona, for his part, said the Legislature should just allow Reyes to work until the expiration of her contract. He said every time a new Legislature is sworn into office, its leadership should be given the chance to choose its own LB director.

Reyes' original appointment letter stated a Jan. 11, 2010 expiration date. Some two months before the expiration of her contract, or on Nov. 12, 2009, then House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios and then Sen. Frica Pangelinan extended her contract until Sept. 30, 2010.

In the LB staffers' letter to the speaker and president, they enumerated 13 specific instances when they said LB staffers received biased or unfair treatment from Reyes.

The allegations included Reyes's preferential granting of personal leave and comp-time to other staffers.

"It is not fair that one employee was denied leave for staff shortage while an-

other employee was granted leave for the same day requested," the letter said.

The LB staffers also alleged that the director tolerates the tardiness of others or those who are "friends" with her, while the rest have to abide by the rules on checking in and checking out at work.

They also complained that the director gives different salary levels to the Senate and House legal counsels, as well as among legislative assistants. They alleged that not all job openings at the LB have been advertised.

The staffers also said not all House and Senate members have access to LB services if and when needed. They also pointed to "conflict of interest," referring to Reyes being the wife of Senate Floor Leader Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan) who is a former Senate president. They also alleged that the director instructed an LB employee to change an evaluation rating on the director.

"When Glenna's contract was renewed no one asked the employees she served whether or not she was treating us with respect and dignity and with purely professional decisions and not personal ones," the letter reads in part.

constituents," he said.

He added that he had invited U.S. congressional staffers to visit the CNMI to also directly talk to the people here on issues such as immigration.

"We can't just allow anybody to be separated from their family," he said.

The Interior report, submitted to the U.S. Congress in April, recommends five options that include granting long-term alien workers permanent residency status, U.S. citizenship or a status similar to those granted to citizens of the Freely Associated States.

The Interior said it will not withdraw its report and recommendation to Congress on the status of alien workers in the CNMI, and the decision rests with Congress.

Separate peaceful rallies were held

on Saipan to support or oppose the Interior report and recommendation.

Meanwhile, July had ended still without federal investor rules for the CNMI. In April, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security said the investor rule will be released in July 2010.

A law signed by former President Bush placed CNMI immigration under federal control, which took effect on Nov. 28, 2009. As of today, DHS has yet to release regulations on foreign investors and foreign workers, as well as the final regulations on the visa waiver program.

Sablan said DHS has its reasons for not releasing the regulations promptly, but he is not going to speculate.

The Fitial administration has sued the U.S. government for federalizing CNMI immigration.

are some other factors to consider.

Igisomar believes that most of the withdrawals are due to the current economic hardship and cash-flow problems of members.

"Most of the time, they're withdrawing their contribution because of economic hardship and cash-flow issue. They see the pension withdrawal as a form of immediate cash," he said.

In July last year, the board of trustees approved a resolution stopping the issuance of refunds to members effective Sept. 1, 2009. But because of the impact of federalization in November last year, this policy was delayed for six months to February 2010. It was again postponed to July 2010 but the board recently decided to stop its implementation indefinitely.

The decision was made for the best interest of all parties and for the longevity of the Fund as well as consideration for the increasing number of unemployed government employees on the islands, Fund officials said.

The withdrawal of contributions was initially seen to benefit the Fund in the long run, based on the assessment of its actuarial consultant, Buck Consultants.

per "qualifying" child.

Another mother of three children aged 14, 15 and 17 expects to receive \$2,500 child tax credit in the mail.

"Most of it will go toward paying for the plane ticket of my daughter, and the rest, for school supplies," the mother said.

Inos said Finance is still processing the rest of the tax refund checks. The department released some 10,000 tax refund and federal stimulus checks on July 12, and some 9,000 more are still being processed.

He said the tax rebate checks will be released after all the refund checks have been released.

A refund is for tax that has been overpaid or incorrectly paid, and is returned to the taxpayer.

It is different from the rebate, which is for tax properly paid and is subsequently returned to the taxpayer under a rebate provision. Rebate checks of some \$5 million will be mailed out later.

The Fitial administration hopes that the release of the refund, federal stimulus, and child tax credit checks will help stimulate the sagging economy.

When the refund and federal stimulus checks were released last month, stores and other business establishments saw increases in sales, albeit minimal. Even gasoline stations saw a surge in motorists filling up their tanks right after the release of the checks.

The child tax credit is up to \$1,000

from \$500.

For more information, call 670-2333.

For more information, call 670-2333.

PSS projects no shortfall this fiscal year

» **\$3M SFSF used to pay teachers' salaries; \$1.4M for utilities**

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Despite its meager funding from the local government, the Public School System expects no shortfall in both operational and personnel costs in Fiscal Year 2010, according to PSS finance director Richard Waldo.

This is thanks in large part to the \$32 million state fiscal stabilization fund—a portion of which was used to pay for the salaries of

teachers and for the power and water consumption of schools.

The local government gave PSS a budget of just \$34 million this fiscal year, which ends Sept. 30. If not for the state fiscal stabilization fund, Waldo said that PSS would have posted a huge deficit.

For this fiscal year, Waldo said, about \$3 million of the state fiscal stabilization fund was used to pay for teachers' salaries—on the condition that these teachers are

deemed highly qualified as mandated by the U.S. Department of Education No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

Waldo said the federal government approved funding the wages of 105 highly qualified positions and allowed the use of \$1.4 million to cover for schools' power and water consumption.

Waldo projects that approximately \$5 million to \$6 million will be needed to continue to pay for the salaries of these

HQT personnel.

"Without the SFSF money, we will have to let go of our personnel because our local budget cannot pay for them all. This fiscal year, approximately \$3 million was used to cover for our personnel cost and we're looking at \$5 to \$6 million that will be needed next fiscal year," said Waldo.

PSS is required to spend the one-time \$32 million state fiscal stabilization fund

by September 2011. It received the first phase of the grant last year, amounting to \$22.3 million. The remaining balance is expected anytime this year.

"If it wasn't for the federal government, PSS cannot function and we're very grateful to this assistance to our students," said Waldo, adding that with the current situation of government revenues, PSS expects to get almost the same budget allocation from

the government next fiscal year.

Also, Waldo said that PSS will begin the new school year with a fresh account with the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

"It was a very tough year for us...but we managed to survive without a shortfall and deficit in our operations...and it's because of the federal assistance," he added.

Excluding the state fiscal stabilization fund, PSS received a total of \$29.6 million in federal monies from various granting agencies in school year 2009-2010. The SFSF grant was awarded to CNMI public schools under the American Recovery Reinvestment Act.

the interests of the public, the court must find that the need for discovery outweighs the policy considerations favoring confidentiality of juvenile case files," the judge said.

Judge: Disclosure of juvenile's conviction records is allowed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The court may permit the disclosure of a juvenile's case files if it is necessary, according to Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman.

However, disclosure of juvenile case files is allowed only if the petitioner shows by a preponderance of evidence that the records requested are necessary and have substantial relevance to the legitimate need of the petitioner, said Wiseman.



Wiseman

eral Brian Gallagher, argued that 19-year-old Roman Cabreira III's juvenile records are not discoverable by Martinez since juvenile records are sealed.

Attorney Mark Hanson, counsel for Martinez, asserted that juvenile records are discoverable and that it should be provided them.

In granting Martinez's request, Wiseman said the general rule is that a juvenile's court file is confidential and may be inspected only under certain conditions and only by certain persons or entities.

Wiseman said the CNMI does not have a statute detailing the conditions or persons but the Commonwealth Code provides that the court shall adopt a flexible procedure based on the accepted practices of U.S. juvenile courts.

"In viewing the statute and juvenile policies of California it is provided that every person or agency seeking to inspect or obtain juvenile court records must petition the court for a

disclosure of juvenile court records," he said.

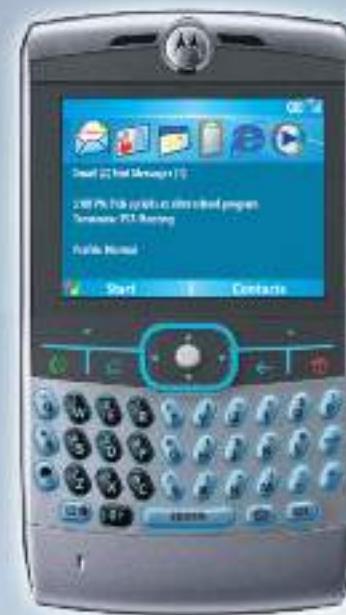
"In determining whether to

authorize inspection or release of juvenile case files, the court must balance the interests of the

child and other parties to the juvenile court proceedings, the interests of the petitioner, and

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Attention Customers:

Several IT&E customers in Chalan Kiya, As Terlaje, Kanat Tabla, Finan Sisu, and Dandan experienced service interruptions due to a cut in IT&E's underground cables that occurred on Sunday, August 1, when CUC crews excavated a ruptured water main in Chalan Kiya. After the water main was repaired, IT&E crews painstakingly repaired each of the severed connections in the 900pr., 600pr., and 100pr. cables. Service was fully restored to the affected areas yesterday afternoon.

We appreciate your patience and understanding.



Life in Motion

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The jury trial of Christopher Leon Guerrero, a police officer facing two extortion charges, began yesterday in federal court.

Several persons were called to the witness stand, including Department of Public Safety's Bureau of Motor Vehicle Records and Firearms Section supervisor William Hocog, Police Officer Tarimai Joseph Yangetmai, Police Officer Sandy Hambrons, Office of the Attorney

Trial of cop in extortion case begins

the conversation.

Calvert said he had been called to the Drug Enforcement Administration's office to verify a telephone number of "a person of interest." He said he later learned it was the number of Leon Guerrero, whom he is familiar with because they have worked on many cases before.

He said the "confidential source" called Leon Guerrero's cell phone where they discussed

a certain payment.

"It sounds like to make the case disappear," said Calvert when O'Malley asked what the payment was for.

With Calvert on the witness stand, O'Malley played the taped conversation. In that conversation, the alleged illegal taxicab owner asked another person when can he get his taxicab back.

The other person, whom Calvert and the prosecution

identified as Leon Guerrero, replied that getting the car at that time was not possible because it was secured.

The taxicab operator told the other person he will pay in exchange for getting back his car.

Leon Guerrero allegedly asked, "How much?" The operator said he could pay \$500.

"You want me to arrest you for bribery?" replied the other person, laughing. He then told the taxicab operator that he will call him.

After playing the taped con-

versation, O'Malley asked Calvert for his reaction after listening to the conversation.

"Shocked," Calvert said.

At this juncture, U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge David O. Carter adjourned the hearing and announced that the trial will continue today, Tuesday, at 8:30am.

Attorney David Banes is counsel for Leon Guerrero. In his opening statement, he said his client was investigating this illegal taxi operation and that the investigation was not finished.

DYS conducts Summer Youth Leadership Camp in Kagman, Ada Gym

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

For the first time, the Division of Youth Services is conducting a Summer Youth Leadership Camp at the Chacha Oceanview Junior High School in Kagman, which began on July 26.

Vivian Sablan, overall parent leadership committee chairperson, said they have been conducting the camp in the downtown district for eight years that they thought of extending the opportunity in the Kagman area.

"We decided to open it up to Kagman youth because sometimes, transportation and other stuff come in the way," she explained.

The summer youth leadership camp aims to provide students ages 6 to 13 worthwhile activities while on summer vacation.

Although the camp is free

of charge, Sablan said they require \$5 from each participant for their insurance coverage during the camp.

Sablan said the camp in Kagman has about 30 participants.

Lilly Jean Bautista, a student from Chacha Oceanview Junior High School, said the camp made it possible for her to interact with other children.

Kycel Butters, 11, said she enjoyed the sports activities.

Both Bautista and Butters lauded DYS for conducting the camp in their village, allowing them to spend their summer in a useful manner.

According to Sablan, the first week of camp is assigned to sports activities like softball, volleyball, basketball, and soccer.

On the second week, students learn about arts and craft, swimming, and canoeing.

Campers will also go on a field trip to the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport and the Northern Marianas College-Cooperative Research Extension and Education Service where they will learn about aquaculture.

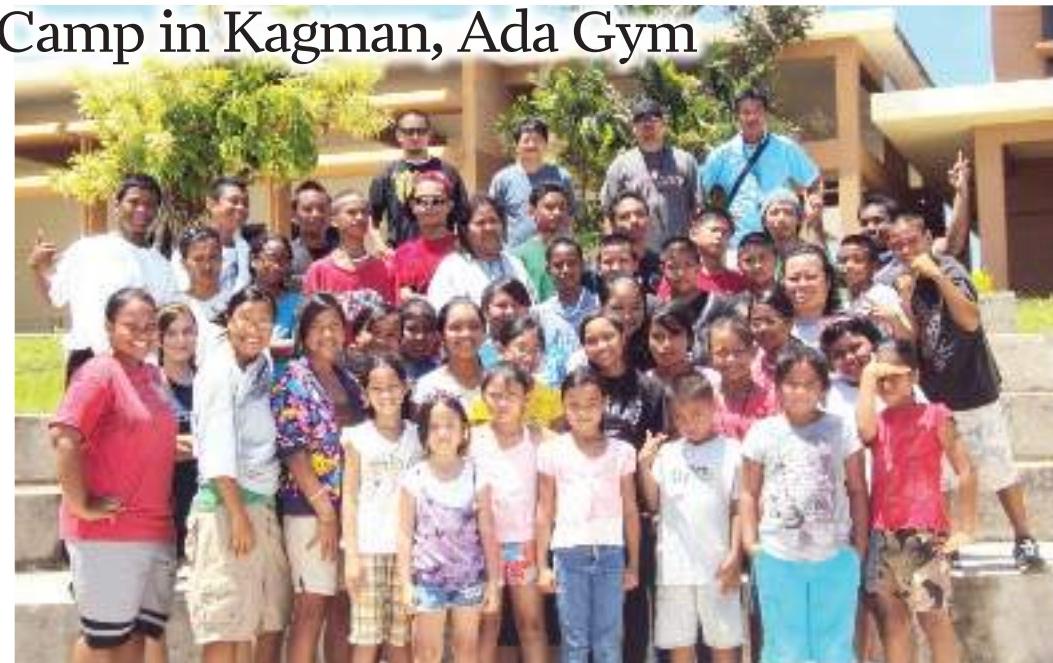
The summer youth leadership camp in Kagman ends this Saturday.

Another camp is also scheduled from Aug. 9 to 21 at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

According to Sablan, they will conclude the camp on a Saturday to engage the participation of parents on the last day of the camp.

"We want to involve the parents so they can take time from their busy schedule and get involved with their kids' summer camp activities," she said.

At present, Sablan said they have close to 70 participants



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Kagman children who participated in the Division of Youth Services' Summer Camp pose with their mentors and volunteers during their activities in Chacha Oceanview Junior High School last week.

for the second camp. She added

that in the past years, they usually accommodate about 100

students.

Those who wish to take part in the camp can still register un-

til noon on Aug. 6, Friday.

For more information, call Vivian Sablan at 322-4673.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION & THE CNMI PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM Announces the 2010 School Leadership Institute

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- Writing in the Content Areas
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- Creating Collaborative School Cultures

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For any questions and inquiries kindly call Coreen Palacios,
PSS Human Resources Office at (670) 237 3059
Registration at 8 am

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STUDENTS FIRST

Election Commission to revise budget request for Nov. poll

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Election Commission executive director Robert Guerrero said yesterday that he will propose a revised budget for the November election, lowering the amount from the original \$128,000 to \$100,000.

This came about after Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos told *Saipan Tribune* last week that the election for the CNMI delegate need not cost \$128,000.

Guerrero said the budget adjustment will be made in certain areas of the election process, but the number of polling places will remain the same so as not

to affect voters. Any "cutting down of polling places" will be a last-resort for the commission, he added.

Included in the \$128,000 budget request are some commission meetings held prior to the election. Guerrero admitted that some of those meetings didn't take place at all.

"Because some of these meetings didn't took place, we minimized the travel of board members from Tinian and Rota," said Guerrero.

Besides the election of a CNMI delegate, the election will also feature legislative initiatives that require voter consent. Only two legislative initiatives have so far been transmitted to the commission since last year. One that recently passed the Senate has yet to reach the table of the commission.

The commission earlier estimated spending \$40,000 for the public educational campaign of each initiative. If three initiatives go on the ballot, this will mean a total of \$120,000 cost for public education alone.

Guerrero said the commission is willing to make the necessary adjustments so it could live within its means.

"If we are given \$100,000 for the whole election process... we will work within that budget and will minimize cost in our preparations," he said.

He conceded, though, that it will still be the board of commissioners that will make the final decision on his recommendation.

In case the government provides a budget lower than

\$100,000, Guerrero believes this would create an inconvenience to the voters.

"Lower than \$100,000 is probably doable...but it would create a little bit of inconvenience on our voters because we may resort to cutting down the polling places we have," he said.

The commission can get its funding in two ways: through reprogramming by the Executive Branch or through appropriation from the Legislature. To date, both branches of government have yet to identify or commit a funding source for this purpose.

'Not a last-minute request'

Guerrero submitted the budget proposal for the election in March this year. He also attended a few budget hearings and meetings to discuss and justify this proposal.

"This is not a last-minute request as what many are thinking. We've been asking for this funding since early this year," he said.

Guerrero said the budget delay continues to impact the public education campaign for the initiatives and the absentee ballots.

After closing the petitions and nominations on Aug. 4, the commission is expected to certify the

candidates and the initiatives that will be included in the ballot.

The agency also needs to send absentee ballots to absentee voters by mid-September so the documents could return before or on Election Day.

Guerrero said if the commission gets its funding this week, they could still work on a schedule for the public education and absentee ballots.

"Please keep in mind that absentee ballots are only sent to those who made the requests. And the longer the wait for these ballots, the shorter the time we can get them back," he said.

In the last general election, close to 2,000 absentee voters participated in the polls.

The commission was criticized last year for not conducting enough public education on some legislative initiatives.



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

LANTERNS FOR PEACE

Visiting students of the Japan-based Sanpo-en International Cultural Exchange Association and CNMI residents form a human chain at the beach and in the waters behind the former Pacific Gardenia Hotel in Chalan Kanoa to float 300 Japanese paper lanterns into the open sea for peace and friendship on Friday night.

22 students complete first-ever Ridge to Reef Rangers camp

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Twenty-two elementary students from different schools received certificates and junior ranger pins after completing the inaugural Ridge to Reef Rangers camp organized by the American Memorial Park from July 26 to 30.

Park Ranger Nancy Kelchner distributed the certificates and pins to the student participants as well as some camp volunteers last Friday.

Camp volunteers included Command Sgt. Maj. Leonardo Rabago and 10 members of the Saipan Southern High School JROTC team; Lisa Eller, John Iguel, Olivia Tebuteb, and Avic Bickel of the Division of Environmental Quality; Brooke Nevitt and Rachel Zuercher of the Coastal Resources Management; Laura Williams of the Division of Fish and Wildlife; three

Coral Reef Initiative interns; and Commodore Awi and his twelve men from the US Navy Maritime Prepositioning Ship USNS 1st Lt. Jack Lummus.

Despite the downpour during the course of the camp, Kelchner said they still proceeded with the five-day camp.

Kelchner said that throughout the camp, the children learned about reefs and what land and humans do to either help or hinder the reef.

During the kickoff on Monday, Kelchner, Eller, Nevitt, and Iguel introduced campers to the living, breathing entity that is the reef by going snorkeling at Marine Beach.

Kelchner said U.S. Navy representatives, including the top two officers, helped out, particularly with the students who could not swim or were unsure of swimming. "Those kids were like little fish by the end of Mon-

day," she added.

On Tuesday, Kelchner said they talked to the campers about watersheds and the impact of land on the reef.

She said they showed the students pictures, maps and film about what a watershed is. A diorama also helped them discuss the concept.

After the watershed lesson, the group went to the bird sanctuary trail in As Matuus which is about two miles and took them a little over two hours to hike. "These kids were fabulous and it was the first time that any of these young people had ever been on such a long hike," said Kelchner.

On Wednesday, the students participated in an eye spy game at the Paseo de Marianas in Garapan where they looked for things like open or too full trash cans. During the game, they also talked about suggestions on how to fix these problems.

On Thursday, the campers went to the Bird Island Sanctuary and learned about water runoff. They also went snorkeling at Paupau Beach.

Friday, the last day of the camp, was allotted for mangrove tree planting in the mangrove forest at American Memorial Park.

Kelchner said the group planted 50 juvenile plants in the forest and learned about how trees impact the quality of water from Garapan that goes to the Tanapag lagoon.

"The kids have a personal stake now. They have their own trees that they planted and they could come back and observe their progress and growth," she added.

Kelchner said the children also painted souvenir shirts and summed up their camp journals last Friday.

Corin Mercado of William S. Reyes Elementary School

Joeten-Kiyu Public Library updates IT center

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library is currently updating its information technology center using the five-year technology grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Studies.



Gonzales

Gonzales said the new equipment will replace about 20 desktop computers that still have central processing units.

"What people will see in the information technology center are only monitors and keyboards since we're going to have a main server," he said.

According to Gonzales, modernizing their equipment would save the public library thousands of dollars in terms of utility, hardware, and upgrade costs.

Center, Kagman Community Center, Tinian Public Library, and the Rota Public Library.

He added that the Joeten-Ki-

yu Public Library has long been receiving the five-year technology grant from IMLS. The last one was in 2008.

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB10-DOC-138**

CLOSING DATE: MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2010
TIME: 10:00 A.M.

***REPLACEMENT OF REGULAR STREET LAMPS TO LED
STREET LIGHTS FOR SAIPAN, TINIAN AND ROTA***

COPIES OF THE BID PACKAGE CAN BE OBTAINED VIA EMAIL BY REQUEST FROM ROY P. REYES, P.E., AT reyes@cnmigov.net ON OR AFTER JULY 26, 2010. IF HARDCOPIES ARE DESIRED, BIDDERS MAY CONTACT THE PROJECT MANAGER AT THE PROVIDED EMAIL ADDRESS FOR ARRANGEMENTS.

A MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED AT THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE CONFERENCE ROOM, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 10TH, 2010 BEGINNING AT 10 AM.

THIS IS AN AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 PROJECT AND AS SUCH ALL MATERIALS PURCHASED MUST BE MANUFACTURED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ACCORDING TO THE BUY AMERICAN ACT.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE IT IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW.

/S/ MICHAEL J. ADA
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

/S/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Alfonso A. Mendiola and
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PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the) FCD CN
Petition for the) CIVIL ACTION
Change of Name of:) NO. 10-0354

EVAN JAMES) NOTICE OF
PINAGUA) HEARING
BARCINAS)
Minor Child)
By:)
Alfonso Mendiola)
& Claire Mae)
Barcina)
Petitioners)

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on August 30, 2010, at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 205, before Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 12th day of July, 2010.

BERNADITA SABLAN
Clerk of Court

/s/ By: Deputy Clerk of Court

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued by the Court in this matter on May 14, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in the following property.

- 1) Lot EA-120-2, located in As Falipe, Garapan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 2,165 square meters, more or less; and
- 2) Lot EA-459-12, located in As Falipe, Garapan, Saipan, containing an area of 1,199 square meters, more or less.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on August 5, 2010, at the hour of 10:00 am, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public and will be held in reserve.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. **Rights and duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
 - b) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - c) To reject any and all bids.
2. **Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, PO Box 503758 CK, Saipan, MP 9695, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749.
3. **Deposit Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash or cashier's check. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to the Bank of Guam.
4. **Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and the Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
5. **Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 17th day of June, 2010.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

NMC to host free info session on Aug. 11

Those interested in furthering their education and advancing their professional careers are encouraged to attend the Northern Marianas College's free information session on Wednesday, Aug. 11, 2010, at Room D-1 at the College's As Terlaje campus, from 5:30pm to 6:30pm.

Faculty, staff, and students from the different degree and certificate programs, as well as counseling, financial aid, and ad-

missions staff will be on hand to answer questions. Other current students will also be speaking about their experiences at NMC.

Individuals who attend the free information session will qualify to have their application fee and their placement test fees waived for the Fall 2010. This represents a savings of about \$75. Registration for the Fall 2010 semester will begin on Monday, Aug. 16, 2010 and will

continue until Saturday, Aug. 21, 2010.

NMC offers several degree and certificate programs, including bachelor of science degrees in elementary education, associate degrees in business, business administration (emphasis on accounting, business management, or computer applications), liberal arts, nursing, natural resources management, criminal justice, and hospitality manage-

ment. Moreover, it offers short-term certificate programs in different vocational, academic, and professional areas.

The free information session is open to everyone, including graduating seniors and their parents, government and private sector employees, international students, and members of the general public who are interested in learning more about the programs at NMC. (NMC)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Program on Article XII today

Citizens for Change of Article XII will be hosting a program on Channel 2 today, Aug. 3, 2010, and running for two more consecutive Tuesdays (Aug. 10, and Aug. 17) from 7pm to 7:30pm. Be sure to tune in and learn more about issues relating to Article XII from David Sablan, Alex Sablan, Vince Serman, and others. (PR)

John Gonzales LIVE schedule

John Gonzales Live airs live on

Wednesdays and replays on Sundays and Mondays—all from 7pm to 8pm on KSPN Ch. 2. Text 285.META (6382) or email johngonzales@pticom.com for questions or comments.

John Gonzales Live will feature this Wednesday, Aug. 4, 2010, the Northern Marianas College.

Titled "NMC is fully accredited!", it will feature guest speakers Lorraine T. Cabrera, interim NMC president; Leo Pangelinan, dean, Student Services; Bobbie Merfalen, dean, Academic Programs; and Gal-

vin Guerrero, accreditation liaison officer. Replays are on Aug. 8 and 9, 2010.

On Aug. 11, 2010, the program will tackle natural resources management and will feature NMC CREES director Ross Manglona and agriculture consultant Isidoro Cabrera. Replays on Aug. 15 and 16, 2010 (PR)

Share your thoughts about next NMC president

The Northern Marianas College Presidential Search Committee is seeking the community's input about the characteristics, experiences, and skills that the next president of the college should have.

The committee is collecting the input through an online survey that can be accessed from the NMC website at www.nmcnet.edu. The survey also asks what personal values and goals the next president should bring to the position, as well as the two most important priorities that the new president should address immediately.

All community members are encouraged to share their thoughts by filling out the short survey.

The results of the survey will be used to provide some guidelines for the Presidential Search Committee in formulating questions for the prospective presidential candidates. For a copy of the presidential vacancy announcement or more regular updates regarding the search for a new NMC president, please log on to www.nmcnet.edu. (NMC)

DOC's Ada guest at Chamber membership meeting

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will have its general membership meeting at the Pacific Islands Club's Charley's Cabaret tomorrow, Aug. 4. Commerce Secretary Michael Ada will offer

Chamber members an update on the federal census, further information about the Small Business Development Center, information about the status of SBA lending, an update on ARRA projects in the Commonwealth, an update on the Guam military buildup, and more!

Registration and lunch will begin at 11:30am, and the meeting will begin at noon. As usual, the meeting is \$15 for members, \$20 for guests of members, and \$25 for general public. (SCC)

MRCDC sets executive board meeting

The Marianas Resource Conservation and Development Council will hold an executive board meeting/teleconference on Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and Guam on Thursday afternoon, Aug. 5, 5pm-6pm. The public is invited. For island-specific location information or special accommodation for disability call (671) 483-9415. (PR)

Military training on FDM, Warning Area-517

SANTA RITA, GUAM—The Air Force will conduct training on Farallon de Medinilla Aug. 2-6, from 7am to midnight and on Warning Area-517 Aug. 2, from 7am to midnight. The Navy will conduct training on W-517 Aug. 3-4 from

For more information, call Ruth Coleman at the Office of Military/Veterans Affairs at 664-2650.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Aug. 3, 1999

CUC asked to write off govt debts

The chair of the House Ways and Means Committee yesterday broached a proposal to ask the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation to write off portion of the \$6.8 million in unpaid utility bills that the government has accumulated over the past six months. CUC should make retroactive the forthcoming power rate reduction for the government to lessen the burden of the Tenorio administration in raising funds to settle the bills, according to Rep. Karl T. Reyes. The rate adjustment from the present 20 cents per kilowatt-hour to 16 cents, which is the same rate offered to commercial users, is scheduled to take effect by late this month—a move that utility officials said is intended to help the cash-strapped government wean CUC away from heavy subsidy.

Research supports use of vernacular at home

A recent research by the Pacific Resources for Education and Learning or PREL supports the concept that parents should communicate with their children at home in their first language as it is their stronger medium of communication. "When parents and children speak the language that they know best, they are working at their actual level of cognitive maturity," according to PREL's research. The PREL report, entitled Language Use at Home and School: A Synthesis of Research for Pacific Educators, provides an overview of several research findings that relate to the context of education in the Pacific region, which has an estimated 30 different languages.

Aug. 3, 2000

NMI needs crop insurance program

Federal crop insurance program should be extended to the CNMI in order to boost growth of the local agriculture industry which has suffered since World War II, according to Rep. William S. Torres. The legislator, who has initiated steps to develop the farm sector in recent months, urged the U.S. Department of Agriculture to study the possibility of implementing the federal program in the Commonwealth. He asked in particular August Schumacher, USDA's undersecretary of Farm and Foreign Agriculture Service, to implement such program for local farmers and ranchers.

PCB contamination: 90 percent of medical results turned over to DPH

Ninety percent of the results of the health evaluation conducted among residents of Tanapag in connection with polychlorinated biphenyl contamination in the village have been sent back to the Department of Public Health. More than 1,000 residents have undergone blood testing to determine the level of PCB contamination in their body. Doctors also conducted a general evaluation of the people's state of health. Dr. Richard Brostrom, head of the medical team in Tanapag Clinic, said the results will most probably be discussed with the people who took the PCB testing by October with the expected arrival of additional number of doctors who will assist the public health department.

Aug. 3, 2001

OPA faults LibDay panel's handling of funds, services

A review on the cash receipts and disbursements of the 1999 Liberation Day Committee conducted by the Office of the Public Auditor revealed the committee's less than sterling performance in the accounting of its funds and procurement of supplies and services. "Our audit showed that LDC conducted its activities without following sound operating and accounting procedures, and was unable to account for all its funds," Public Auditor Michael S. Sablan said in a report. More specifically, OPA said LDC was remiss in accounting for raffle tickets valued at \$18,950. It said the problem originated from the committee's weak control procedures for the monitoring of ticket sales. Because of this, OPA said it was unable to account for at least 3,790 ticket booklets out of the original 15,000.

Fitial rallies support for FTZs

House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial is urging other CNMI leaders to help fast-track the establishment of free trade zones in the Northern Marianas. Fitial made the call yesterday after Free Trade Zone Authority Board Chair Karl T. Reyes aired concerns on the present status of the agency. Reyes said the FTZA's organizational work has been hindered by the lack of operational funding. It has been almost a year now since Public Law 12-20, the NMI Free Trade Zone Act of 2000, was enacted in hopes to stimulate the CNMI's sluggish economy. According to Fitial, it has become more urgent now for the FTZA to do its job in light of the reported decline in government revenues and the prolonged slump experienced by CNMI industries.

Can you identify?

THE NMI Council for the Humanities, in collaboration with the Saipan Tribune, is running a series of photographs in this section every Tuesday and is inviting the public to identify the persons or places featured in this section.



If you can identify the persons or places in the picture, please contact the NMI Council for the Humanities by telephone (235-4785), via email (photo@nmihumanities.org) or by visiting the Council's office located in Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai. These images are from the Council's Historic Photograph Database which is currently being developed to help document the history and cultures of the CNMI.



The persons featured in last week's photo have been identified as follows: back row from left: Lucia Blas, Maria Cruz, and Juan Pangelinan (Bolis). Front row from left: Frank Cruz, Jesus B. Pangelinan, and Tony Muña. Identified by Joe Guerrero and Francis.

Hawaii marine national monument now a World Heritage Site

»First US site added to World Heritage List in 15 years

WASHINGTON D.C.—Interior Secretary Ken Salazar and NOAA Administrator Dr. Jane Lubchenco on Friday commended the World Heritage Committee for adding Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (Papahānaumokuākea) in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands to the prestigious UNESCO World Heritage List at its annual meeting in Brasilia, Brazil.

Measuring nearly 140,000 square miles and protecting more than 7,000 marine and terrestrial species, Papahānaumokuākea is the nation's first site designated for its outstanding value as both a nat-

ural and cultural heritage site.

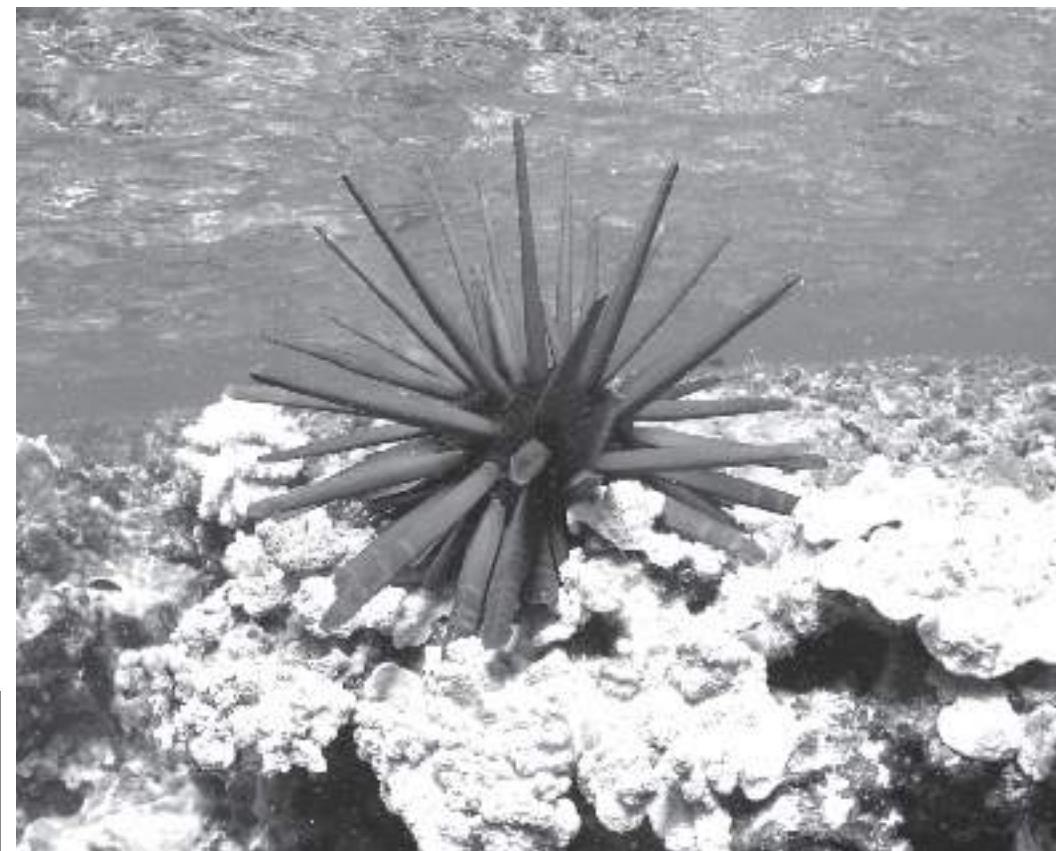
World Heritage listing acknowledges the historical, cultural or natural value of a site, as well as the commitment of the sovereign nation and the site's owners to its long-term protection and management.

"I am pleased that the World Heritage Committee recognized the unique cultural and natural heritage of Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument and the commitment of the United States and the state of Hawai'i to conserve it," Salazar said. "The monument will now be part of an exclusive list that includes sites such as the Egyptian pyramids, the Taj Mahal,

and the Great Barrier Reef."

"We are proud to add this exceptional marine protected area to the list of the world's greatest natural and cultural treasures," said Dr. Lubchenco, undersecretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere and NOAA administrator. "As the nation's first primarily marine World Heritage site, Papahānaumokuākea helps forward global recognition of the critical heritage values of the sea and global understanding of the importance of protecting our oceans."

The islands and seascape were inscribed as a spectacular example of evolution in isolation, resulting in a great



JAMES WATT

Court grants Robinson's motion to transfer case to DC

The federal court allowed Friday the transfer to the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia the proceedings in the case against Kent Sebastian Robinson, who is accused of forging a \$200 million treasury bond.

As this developed, the U.S. government filed Friday a superseding indictment that charged Robinson with one count of making and uttering of a fictitious obligations and one count of mail fraud.

Robinson pleaded not guilty to the charges in the superseding indictment. Court-appointed counsel Bruce Berline was with the defendant.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge David A. Wiseman accepted the not guilty plea and ruled that the jury trial in this case would remain on Nov. 9, 2010.

The original indictment charged Robinson with one count of fraudulent uttering of a private security, one count of making and uttering of a fictitious obligation, and one count of mail fraud.

U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge Mark W. Bennett said he finds that the location of Robinson and the witnesses and the expense to the parties weigh substantially in favor of transferring the case to D.C.

On the other hand, Bennett said, three of the factors against transfer—location of counsel, location of documents and records, and disruption of defendant's business—"do so only weakly."

Robinson had earlier asked the court to order the U.S. Marshal to pay for his one-way air-

line ticket to Washington, D.C. and to furnish him with money for subsistence expenses during his travel. The court has not heard that motion yet.

Robinson said the U.S. government has forcibly brought him, a lifelong Maryland resident, thousands of miles away to Saipan, a secluded and "completely foreign" venue.

He said the sole purpose of bringing him to Saipan was to try him for crimes that were allegedly completed mostly in

Washington.

According to the indictment, on Dec. 19, 2008, Robinson made a counterfeited and forged document—a Secured Funding and Offset Bond—purportedly registered with the U.S. Department of Treasury.

The "Offset Bond," which had a declared value of \$200 million, was paid to the order of Oceania Insurance Corp., a company registered and doing business in the CNMI. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Sign-up deadline for disaster aid for aquaculture producers

Tom Camacho, county executive director of the Farm Service Agency, is reminding aquaculture producers that the deadline for the Non-Insured Disaster Assistance Program coverage on 2010 value-loss crops (aquaculture, turfgrass, floriculture, etc.) is Sept. 1, 2010.

The NAP program is designed to cover losses due to damaging tropical storms and typhoons. The program covers loss of value in excess of 50 percent of the total value. The administrative fee per policy is \$250 per crop, per producer with a \$750 cap per county. NAP coverage does not begin until 30 days after one's application is filed and the administrative fee has been paid. The administrative fee is non refundable.

This deadline date also applies to producers who have a 2010 policy that expires on Sept. 30 and want to renew their coverage for the same value-loss crops in 2011. Producers are encouraged to contact their local FSA office to obtain NAP coverage or for more information on the NAP program before the Sept. 1, 2010 deadline.

For more information about disaster programs implemented by FSA, visit www.fsa.usda.gov. (*USDA*)

should contact their local USDA Service center before Sept. 1 to complete an application," said Camacho. "Producers who currently have NAP coverage or who are interested in coverage need to keep accurate records of their inventory and provide monthly inventories to the Farm Service Agency, and promptly notify FSA whenever losses occur."

This deadline date also applies to producers who have a 2010 policy that expires on Sept. 30 and want to renew their coverage for the same value-loss crops in 2011. Producers are encouraged to contact their local FSA office to obtain NAP coverage or for more information on the NAP program before the Sept. 1, 2010 deadline.

For more information about disaster programs implemented by FSA, visit www.fsa.usda.gov. (*USDA*)

DEQ sets monthly cleanup on Saturday

The Division of Environmental Quality cleanup brigade will be at it again, picking up trash at the Outer Smiling Cove Marina.

If you would like to volunteer, meet the DEQ representatives on Saturday, Aug. 7, 2010, at 8am at the parking lot at the entrance to the Outer Cove Marina.

Volunteers will be cleaning for about two hours and then

break for drinks and continue if needed.

This month, outstanding brigade volunteers who participated in at least 10 monthly cleanups will receive a brigade cap and those who participated in at least three cleanups will receive a green brigade t-shirt.

This is a cleanup that should not be missed, so join DEQ's

cleanup brigade and "Pick It Up!" Let us work together for the health of our coral reefs and cleanliness of our beaches for everyone to enjoy.

The DEQ cleanup brigade began in 1996 and continues to maintain clean, healthy beaches.

For more information about volunteering, contact the DEQ office at 664-8500. (*DEQ*)

number of marine and terrestrial flora and fauna unique to Papahānaumokuākea. The tiny islands and atolls provide nesting and foraging grounds for 14 million seabirds, making it the world's largest tropical seabird rookery. Sharks and other large apex predators are abundant in the waters of Papahānaumokuākea.

Additionally, the region provides

the only remaining habitat for

several endangered species,

such as the Laysan duck and

Nihoa millerbird and provides

critical habitat for the Hawaiian monk seal.

Geologically, the monument is an unparalleled example of volcanic island and atoll formation, stretching over 1,200 miles from end to end.

Papahānaumokuākea is the name given to this area of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands

lands by the Monument's Native Hawaiian advisory group, honoring its deep cultural significance to the indigenous people. Two of the islands in Papahānaumokuākea feature the highest concentrations of ritual sites in Hawai'i and bear remarkable testimony to the shared historical origins of Polynesian societies. In predominant Native Hawaiian tradition, Papahānaumokuākea is believed to lie within the place where life originates and to which it returns.

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument is administered jointly by the Department of the Interior as a component of the National Wildlife Refuge System, the Department of Commerce, and the State of Hawai'i, with assistance from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. World

Heritage designation does not change the Monument's management structure and Papahānaumokuākea will continue to be managed to ensure the conservation and preservation of the Monument's relatively pristine ecosystems and significant cultural heritage for future generations.

The United States nominated the monument as a World Heritage site in 2009. The remote chain of atolls and surrounding waters is the first U.S. site to be added to the World Heritage List in 15 years. It joins 20 U.S. sites currently on the list, including the Grand Canyon and the Statue of Liberty.

In 2009 the World Heritage List had 878 sites from 144 countries, including 679 cultural, 174 natural, and only 25 mixed natural and cultural sites. (*DOI*)

USCIS announces first 10 areas of focus for agency-wide policy review

WASHINGTON D.C.—U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has announced the results of a public survey that launched the USCIS Policy Review, an unprecedented, top-to-bottom examination of the agency's adjudication and customer-service policies. The survey results helped USCIS select the first 10 issue areas to address in the agency-wide review.

Informed by the survey responses, the agency's needs, and input from the workforce, the USCIS Policy Review will begin by examining policies in the following issue areas: *National Customer Service Center; Nonimmigrant H-1B; Naturalization and Citizenship; Employment-based Adjustment of Status; Family-based Adjustment of Status; Employment-Based Preference Categories*

I, 2 and 3; Refugee and Asylum Adjustment of Status; Form I-601; General Humanitarian; and Employment Authorization and Travel Documents.

"As an agency, we must achieve consistency in the policies that guide us and in how we implement them for the public benefit," said USCIS Director Alejandro Mayorkas. "To achieve that critical goal, we are partnering with the public in this major undertaking to review our adjudication and customer-service policies. We will work collaboratively toward the shared objectives of consistency, integrity, transparency and efficiency."

In April 2010, USCIS issued a survey that asked any interested member of the public, as well as its own workforce, to help identify the issue areas that the agen-

cy should examine first. USCIS received approximately 5,600 survey responses from diverse stakeholders. Those results are now available, along with a summary developed by USCIS's new Office of Performance and Quality.

USCIS is now establishing internal working groups to focus on each of the 10 issue areas. The working groups will include USCIS adjudicators, policy analysts, attorneys, customer-service representatives and other experts from within the agency. Throughout the Policy Review, USCIS will continue to engage with the public and seek its feedback to ensure that the resulting policies are informed, responsive and effective.

For more information on USCIS and its programs, visit www.uscis.gov. (*USCIS*)

Opinion

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EDITORIAL

Injunction puts parts of Arizona's SB 1070 on hold

In a victory for the federal government and civil rights advocates, District Court Judge Susan Bolton put a temporary hold on Arizona's harsh immigration law Wednesday, forbidding the most controversial parts of it from taking effect Thursday as scheduled. Her temporary injunction invalidates the portions of the law, among others, that required police officers to check the immigration status of people they stop and that required immigrants to carry their papers at all times.

The ruling is not the last word on SB 1070; the federal suit against the state will continue. But in granting the injunction—and making it clear that the federal government is likely to prevail at trial—the judge has powerfully bolstered the argument that a state cannot pre-empt federal authority on the matter of immigration.

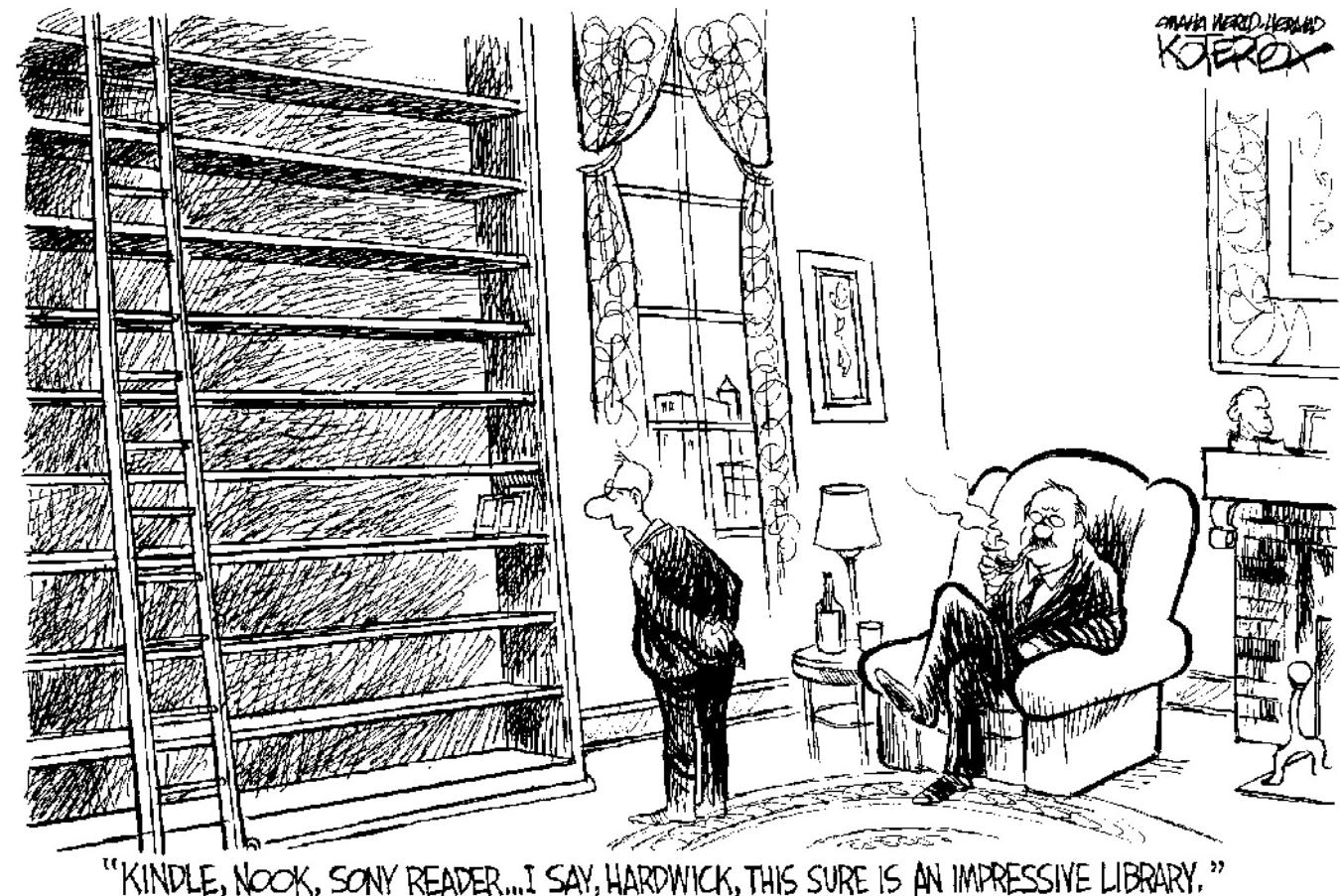
Not only are we pleased with the ruling, but we hope it throws cold water on similar proposals percolating in legislatures across the country.

Even though the court did not side with Arizona, the state's powers are not diminished. Its local law enforcement agencies already lead the nation in turning over illegal immigrants to federal authorities, and that will probably continue.

Maricopa County alone, where Sheriff Joe Arpaio is under federal investigation for civil rights violations, has assisted in the deportation of 26,000 illegal immigrants since 2007—about one-quarter of the total deportations nationally during that period. (Los Angeles County is a distant second with about 13,800.)

Arizona still has the tools it needs to keep its version of the peace. But in the end, neither Arizona nor any other state will be able to arrest its way out of a problem that requires concerted, comprehensive congressional action. That's why the appropriate response to the injunction is for the frustrated public—in and outside of Arizona—to hold the federal government to its word. It has asserted its authority on the subject, and now it should be pressed to use it.

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US needs a strong Europe

By MICHAEL BURRI
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

In 2006, foreign-policy oddsmakers were touting the European Union. Global trends, they argued, were redistributing the balance of power, and the Europeans were on track to win. Mark Leonard summed up this thinking in his book "Why Europe Will Run the 21st Century."

What a difference four years makes.

Today, few outside Brussels expect a fast track for Europe. Rattled by the euro crisis, boxed in by demographic challenges, and increasingly risk-averse, Europe is choosing to become, as scholar Ivan Krastev puts it, a "retired power."

But if there is one thing the United States does not need in 2010, it is a self-doubting, infirm Europe.

In the calm after the global financial storm, the European Union will remain the world's largest economy. And the central challenges facing Europe and the United States—environment, global governance, international terrorism, and nuclear proliferation, among others—have not changed.

Sure, the European Union can do more than live up to yesterday's hype, but a Europe that rediscovers itself will find that its best ideals still stir hearts and change minds.

Here is some of what is on the line. First, Europe is a major voice for foreign-policy idealism. This voice negotiates through constructive dialogue, backed by economic and political incentives.

Right now, though, that policy-making is coming unglued. Regional powers at the edges of the European Union are using the current malaise to reset priorities and reshuffle alliances. Stefan Fule, the EU enlargement and neighborhood policy commissioner, recently warned that "Ankara's foreign policy is expanding even faster than Turkish Airlines is expanding its global network." Meanwhile, new Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich increasingly sees Russian policy as his own.

Second, the EU offers a practical approach to making decisions, through internal deliberations, ensuring that all members have some say in policy formation, and bargaining forums that reconcile differences. An almost magical process, it has yielded agreement on policy among more than 27 countries.

But now, in Belgium, the host of most EU institutions, reenergized political forces are conjuring the old European demons of ethnic conflict to challenge that formula. Bart De Wever, leader of

the New Flemish Alliance, a separatist party that won the most seats in parliament in the June election, claims his victory shows that the country is now "splitting itself into two whole democracies."

It couldn't happen at a worse time. A United States increasingly paralyzed by rancorous and partisan politics could use some of that old consensus-producing magic.

Third, there is the European model of social solidarity. It provides basic protections against life's inevitabilities—illness, loss of work, old age, social exclusion—and aims, as a matter of conscience, to reduce broad inequalities of wealth and poverty. Today, this model, too, is under siege.

While the European Union estimates that 17 percent of its population, or 80 million citizens, lives under the poverty line, governments in Eastern and Southern Europe, where many of those people live, are fighting the new Europe 2020 plan, which is designed to cushion the hardships associated with this poverty.

If Europe continues to surrender its social ambitions, ordinary Americans will be among the casualties. Without the example set by Europe of universal health care, our Congress would hardly have extended health insurance to 30 million uninsured Americans this year.

Finally, America needs a confident, dynamic, and engaged Europe because America itself is undergoing a crisis of confidence. Overcoming this and other crises will not consist of wondering who tried harder, who made worse mistakes, or who had the tougher luck. It will mean mastering lessons from the past and doing better in the future—something both the United States and Europe have been very good at.

If we have learned anything in the past 10 years, it is that whatever the challenges ahead are, the United States cannot meet them alone. A Europe that fully re-embraces its extraordinary mission is part of the solution.

Despite the upbeat declarations of a few years ago, Europe probably won't run the 21st century. But in a competitive, multipolar world, a self-assured and successful European Union—with its remarkable achievement in transforming the continent and its vision for the wider world—can strengthen the United States. What Europe has to offer the 21st century matters more than ever.

Michael Burri teaches at the University of Pennsylvania. Readers may send him e-mail at tryst@sas.upenn.edu. He wrote this for the Philadelphia Inquirer.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Thomas Lee Greco in memoriam

Tommy Greco had a ticket to come to Saipan February of 2009 from Brooklyn. He did not make it to Continental's Newark Liberty. He rebooked in March. He made the airport for Saipan via Guam but he failed to bring his passport. He could have boarded with two government-issued IDs but Continental Newark was not up-to-date on the rules.

Retired Tommy resided in a care home on Coney Island, in a state-subsidized charity facility that stuck out like a sore thumb on Ocean Parkway lined with fashionable homes and condos. Ocean Parkway is not an address for the anemic of bank accounts! In 2009, Tommy's health and consciousness were headed south. That was not the case when he hauled himself to Beijing 2005 to meet his intended, introduced over the Internet by accountant friend Phillip and Manchurian-born Manhattan-hospital-nurse Hui Ling.

Tommy and Yan married December 2005 in China and lived together in Shenyang of the northeast. Framed wedding portraits graced their dwelling. Common marriages in China are devoid of elaborate ceremony as practiced elsewhere but they order wedding pictures for posterity. Mukden's (Shenyang's old name) Siberian winter interfered with domestic tranquility and Graecian Yankee returned to Brooklyn where the health services were more to his liking. He had an advanced case of diabetes.

July 2006, Tommy petitioned his wife and stepson to join him in the U.S. Impatient with State's bureaucratic wheels, Tommy headed once more to Shenyang domicile but he succumbed again to the cold bite of winter, so he returned a month later to the eastern Atlantic seaboard near the Statue of Liberty on the Hudson.

Yan immediately applied for a non-immigrant visa February 2007 to join Tommy in New York. The visa was denied; Yan was admonished to wait out the result of the pending immigrant petition. In January 2008, the Guangzhou U.S. Consulate called Yan for an interview. Mother and son expected to travel from old Canton to New York after the interview so they bade family and friends "adieu." The trek crossed no national boundaries. Mother and son were told to wait while Tommy was asked for additional documents. The duo sheepishly returned to *Dong Bei* sans fanfare!

A standard USCIS letter of denial arrived 10 months later in December 2008 declaring that the U.S. Consulate at Guangzhou did not consider Tommy and Yan's relationship a *bona fide* marriage. Unclear of what the Catch-22 meant and what to do next, Yan asked Tommy to meet her on Saipan, a U.S. territory and at the time, still

controlled (after a fashion) immigration procedures. A tour agency's charge of \$6000 (¥40,000) was steep but Yan the tourist showed up in the Marianas January 2009.

Yan and I bumped into each other on my way to laundry one February afternoon. Having assisted contract workers with labor and immigration cases as director of the Marianas Resource Center of the Immanuel UMC on Saipan, Yan's narrative of her journey piqued our professional curiosity and pastoral interest.

Tommy failed to show up on a third travel attempt in March 2009. I had medical reasons to go stateside so I volunteered to accompany Tommy if he was travel-worthy. In April 2009, I showed up at Tommy's Coney Island care home. He was delighted to see me, and immediately inquired about his wife and stepson. Tommy was in a wheelchair; he slipped in the bathroom a few weeks before and was hospitalized. He was not in the best of shape and, if he could travel, the health services in Saipan would be another issue. For medical reasons alone, it was unconscionable to move him halfway across the planet.

I sought advice, first, from the caregivers in Tommy's care home. The prognosis was not encouraging. Body and mind were rapidly in decline. Tommy's younger brother was well beyond cautious; his lawyer opined that Tommy did not even have the presence of mind to appeal the Guangzhou ruling on his green card petition for his family. The *coup de grace* came when I asked Tommy for two government-issued identification cards that would allow him to board a Continental flight sans passport to Saipan. He only had a driver's license, and he could not remember where he kept it.

On SS benefits, childless from a first marriage, Tommy was by his lonesome. In Shenyang, Yan worked as a nursing attendant to a disabled former California teacher. With that experience, Yan and Tommy were a perfect fit. They may not be a poster couple to the standard Hollywood connubial romance but there was a legitimate marriage of care in the relationship that Guangzhou's U.S. Consulate failed to recognize. We ask, what constitutes a *bona fide* marriage? Who and what criteria are used to make the call?

A child of Don Quixote, we forayed into the U.S. Consulate in Shenyang where we cited our previous experience of securing from Shanghai a non-immigrant visa in 2004 for my Chinese wife to accompany me to Hawaii. I had a religious conference in August 2009 and guaranteed Yan's return if she could travel with me. CG Stephen Wickman who served as a PCV in Korea, responded to my e-mail when I introduced myself as a former PCV trainer; he confessed

members or any mistake that we made, because if you can see it, we can see it too, no need to tell us about it or make judgments. Also, to our elected leaders, you made a campaign promise to support education. Now is the time to start looking into this, because for us unemployed individuals we need a college education because some of us cannot afford to go off island. I think it's time that members of the Legislature ask the accreditation team to simplify to us the requirements we need to follow so that we understand each other.

Winnie Atalig
San Jose, Tinian

Public interest

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has concluded that allowing a state to enforce a state law in violation of the supremacy clause is neither equitable nor in the public interest in the case of SB 1070, the Arizona law. "If Arizona were to enforce the portions of S.B. 1070 for which the Court had found a likelihood of preemption, such enforcement would likely burden legal resident aliens and interfere with federal policy. A preliminary injunction would allow the federal government to continue to pursue federal priorities, which is inherently in the public interest, until a final judgment is reached."

My question is: Did any of the federal agencies such as the Department of the Interior and the Federal Ombudsman—the actual framers of U.S. Public Law 110-229 or the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008—consider the law's burden on its indigenous U.S. citizens prior to enactment of such a law? Is it fair that the drafting of Public Law 110-229 originated from the Department of the Interior, based on data acquired by its Federal Ombudsman? I believe that the public has a right to know the truth behind the real intent of such a law, to include that unintended consequences and irreparable harm was inflicted upon the people of the CNMI which led to serious injuries and uncertainties to both our economy and our community as a whole.

Furthermore, to the Department of the Interior and the Federal Ombudsman, where is the balance of equities and the public interest in this matter? What is your real intent other than national security or border control? Is outright citizenship or permanent residency a public interest?

Gregorio Cruz
Papago, Saipan

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



that consular officers have sole say in granting non-immigrant visas. Yan asked for the opportunity to see her husband one last time. That fell beyond the pale of consular consent. Too bad, user-friendly USCIS on Saipan was not open for business then!

Thomas Lee Greco would have been 66 today; he died last week at the care home on Coney Island. We celebrate his completed life. Yan and her son have moved on.

No electricity, no clean water and no smoking

By IMAD AL-KHUAZAI

THE INSTITUTE FOR WAR&PEACE REPORTING

DIWANIYA, Iraq—Residents of troubled Qadisiyah province can be excused for wondering if local politicians have their priorities straight following the provincial council's vote to ban smoking in government buildings.

Many consider the July 1 vote, which outlawed smoking in any government office or building, as unrealistic, given that local government is still unable to provide basic services to most residents.

Local officials, on the other hand, insist they are striking a blow for public health.

"It's not right to have non-smokers exposed to deadly smoke from smokers," said Jabeer al-Jebori, head of the Qadisiyah council. "The resolution will help limit the spread of smoking in the province. Our goal is to have clean air inside government buildings to protect our employees' health."

But critics of the ban feel that authorities in the province, located in the center of Iraq, should be dealing with more pressing matters.

Fox example, they point to the shortage of electricity, clean water, schools and hospitals for the province's estimated 1.1 million residents.

"This resolution is propaganda by the local government," said Aeid Ibrahim Hasa, 40, a government employee and non-smoker.

"It doesn't promote the overall public interest. Our community is full of smokers. I'm not bothered when my colleagues smoke, so what is the reason for this kind of decision?" he asked.

Others say the ban will be nearly impossible to enforce, given the popularity of smoking among local men. The World Health Organization estimated in 2006 that more than 32 percent of Iraqi men are smokers.

"My boss smokes all the time in his office, and I don't think he will leave his room to have a cigarette because he is the boss. As a result, the people who work for him won't obey the order either. This resolution is bound to fail," said Marzuq Kamil, 50, a provincial government worker.

Some residents support the ban. Ahlam Aqeel, a 32-year-old housewife, said government offices are sometimes choked with cigarette smoke, and the new ban will improve the atmosphere.

"Smoking is one of the main causes of cancer and it affects nonsmokers as well," said Hadi al-Baqir, a member of a Baghdad-based health and environmental non-governmental organization. "In Iraq, our environment is already so polluted. We don't need to increase the risk by smoking. Bans like these can help, but only if they are implemented seriously."

Council leader Jebori sees the ban as a positive step, noting that anti-smoking initiatives are "a trend in modern nations."

Last year, the Iraqi cabinet proposed a sweeping anti-smoking law that would have prohibited smoking in most public places and outlawed cigarette advertising. The measure, however, stalled in parliament.

Still, local residents wish the authorities would address some other pressing issues.

"This ban is shameful for our provincial officials," said Abu Ali, 48, a bus driver. "They have ignored our daily needs to discuss smoking. Have they solved any of our problems? Do we have electricity? Is our water clean and clear? When all of that gets done, then it will be the right time to discuss a smoking ban," he said.

Imad al-Khuzaei is a reporter in Iraq who writes for The Institute for War & Peace Reporting, a nonprofit organization that trains journalists in areas of conflict. Readers may write to the author at the Institute for War & Peace Reporting, 48 Grays Inn Road, London WC1X 8LT, U.K.; Web site: www.iwpr.net.

Letters to the Editor

NMC accreditation long overdue

This accreditation has been an issue for quite a while every time this team comes over. Don't you think it's time this community comes together to help resolve this problem?

The No. 1 problem for me is that we are under-populated to meet many requirements of the WASC. We are also suffering economically at present and these requirements given us are impossible to meet without help. The way I see it, every time the feds give us money there are requirements to follow, regardless whether we know how to implement it or not. But one thing I notice is that they are unaware that we are underpopulated, nor do they know that some of us are still educating ourselves about these requirements so we could understand how to deal with it. And who's to be blame for this? No one. We just need to open up and tell them the truth. Tell the accreditation team that the CNMI is way underpopulated to be classified. Two, we have a lot of needs for the college and we need help to get it.

These are the needs:

- Training and education for employees;
- Money for building improvements (dormitory for Tinian and Rota students, including for foreigners);
- Financial advisers and management trainings for both the board and their supporting body.

There may be more, but for now that's a start.

NMC also need to start offering English language for those foreigners who wants to learn English but we don't have enough resources to implement it.

I feel that we need to tell WASC that we need help to meet their requirements, and that at this point in time it is essential that they help us, because our future depends on this. Many of us out want to go to college so that we can get a better paying job. Another issue is that majority of low income locals do not have enough education to be able to obtain a decent job to support their families. Another is crimes such as misuse of authority, burglary, drug dealing—all increasing due to lack of support for our educational needs.

Anyone out there who has an idea on how to help, please come out and support NMC. And please, no more judgment about board

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.pr.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▾78°

▲86° ▾79°

▲87° ▾79°

▲87° ▾78°

▲87° ▾78°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▾80
Palau	Rain	▲85 ▾78
Yap	Rain	▲86 ▾77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▾77
Pohnpei	Rain	▲87 ▾76
Kosrae	Showers	▲90 ▾80
Majuro	Showers	▲86 ▾78

Around The Globe

Auckland	Rain	▲59 ▾55
Beijing	Thundershowers	▲84 ▾69
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲92 ▾76
Honolulu	Sunny	▲87 ▾74
London	Showers	▲72 ▾55
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲77 ▾61
Manila	Thundershowers	▲88 ▾76
Melbourne	Showers	▲50 ▾44
Miami	Thundershowers	▲89 ▾80
New York	Thundershowers	▲85 ▾75
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲92 ▾79
Paris	Showers	▲71 ▾56
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲87 ▾78
Rome	Sunny	▲87 ▾68
Salem	Sunny	▲87 ▾58
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲59 ▾52
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲88 ▾75
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲91 ▾80
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲93 ▾77

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
12:03 AM	Today	High Tide: 1.8 Feet
7:25 AM	Today	Low Tide: 0.3 Feet
1:51 PM	Today	High Tide: 1.4 Feet
6:43 PM	Today	Low Tide: 1.0 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:00 AM	6:46 PM	Today	11:52 PM	12:13 PM
Wednesday	6:00 AM	6:46 PM	Wednesday		1:08 PM
Thursday	6:00 AM	6:46 PM	Thursday	12:41 AM	2:05 PM
Friday	6:01 AM	6:45 PM	Friday	1:36 AM	3:04 PM
Saturday	6:01 AM	6:45 PM	Saturday	2:35 AM	4:03 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:00 AM	6:46 PM	Today	11:52 PM	12:13 PM
Wednesday	6:00 AM	6:46 PM	Wednesday		1:08 PM
Thursday	6:00 AM	6:46 PM	Thursday	12:41 AM	2:05 PM
Friday	6:01 AM	6:45 PM	Friday	1:36 AM	3:04 PM
Saturday	6:01 AM	6:45 PM	Saturday	2:35 AM	4:03 PM

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A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

■ BUSINESS
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 20, 2010

DEPARTURES

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597 5:00am 5:30am 1, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317 4:25am 5:15am Daily
C09313 8:30am 9:20am Daily
C09601 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7
C09603 3:05pm 3:55pm Daily
C09605 6:35pm 7:25pm Daily
C09599 9:35pm 10:25pm Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287 6:00am 8:35am Daily
DL297 3:20pm 5:55pm Daily
DL289 4:35pm 7:10pm Daily

SAIPAN-NAGOYA

DL640 7:40am 10:20am Daily

SAIPAN-OSSAKA (KIX)

OZ119 4:00am 6:40am Daily

SAIPAN-BEIJING

CA988 3:15am 6:55am 1, 5

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608 3:20am 6:50am 1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604 2:20am 6:00am 1
OZ604 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ604/701 2:20am 11:25am 1 via ICN
OZ604/701 2:50am 11:25am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

DL630/641 6:30am 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605 12:30am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN

Business

Marianas Eye Institute staff receive national certifications

HR MATTERS

Understanding human resource management

By FRANK GIBSON
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Q: What is human resource management and who does it?

A: Understanding that there are countless books and articles on this question with almost as many perspectives and differing answers, this brief article will be limited to a practical, not theoretical answer—a practitioner's perspective.

The first part of the question is not that tough. Simply defined, human resource management describes the manner in which a company relates to its employees. This extends from the initial planning before a company even comes into existence to the obligations a company might have to its employees after the company has passed on to wherever defunct companies go. HR management functions cover a wide range of activities that vary, depending upon how a company is organized, but usually include: staffing, performance evaluation, compensation and benefits, training and development, employee and labor relations, safety and health, federal employment law compliance, internal company communications, and record keeping.

The second half is a bit trickier. All of you folks in the HR Office who just stood up—sit down—wrong answer. Now, all of you owners, managers, supervisors and foremen who looked over and pointed at the HR Office staff, stand up, wave to the crowd and take a bow. Human resource management is your job. The actual HR management functions are performed by line management. Despite their titles, human resource managers and their staff do not perform direct HR management. Managers do. Supervisors do. Foremen do. These responsible employees hold what organizational management textbooks call *line* positions and they directly manage and supervise employees in the accomplishment of the company's reason for being. They are responsible for seeing that the work gets done and that their part of the company mission is successfully performed. In conjunction with direct work management, they interview and determine which applicant should be hired; evaluate employee performance; schedule and certify work time to authorize payment; ensure that employees receive necessary training; resolve employee problems when they occur, hopefully, and ensure that work situations match conditions of employment; provide for their workers' safety and handle health issues; manage and ensure a work environment that follows relevant employment laws; get the word from company upper management out to their employees and obtain feedback (complaints and suggestions); and maintain initial documentation of performance and other employee-related incidents.

The HR Office and its staff, if a company is big enough to have one, provide expertise, assistance and support in accomplishing the human resource management functions. They maintain systems and establish routines, through the development of policies and procedures, and chase managers down, sometimes, to encourage them to get the paperwork side of human resource management done. Still, it is important to recognize that the HR Office staff, despite the important functions that they perform, are not the Human Resource Managers. The HR Office provides an essential link between management and employees—accountable to the company for assisting in the effective management of its resources and to the employees for ensuring that the employment agreement between the company and its employees is fulfilled. BUT—as valuable as they are and as closely intertwined as their relationship might be—the HR Office and its staff are not Human Resource managers. That honor is reserved for line management staff.

The information contained in this column is intended as general information only. Readers should obtain professional advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations. Readers may submit questions regarding human resource issues to hrsupportcnmi@gmail.com or editor@saipantribune.com.

Frank L. Gibson, SPHR, GPHR, owner of HR Support, CNMI, has been a resident of the CNMI for more than 14 years. One of the founding members of the CNMI Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management, he has worked both as a Human Resource Manager and in the Human Resource Office.

Marianas Eye Institute "University," an in-house employee technical training program aimed at cultivating local talent into U.S.-certified ophthalmic technicians, has reasons to celebrate after several staff achieved higher levels of proficiency in their field.

Last month Emilly Taitano and Lin Muleta, the CNMI's only certified ophthalmic assistants, along with Alex Racoma all received their American Board of Opticianary Certification. The preparations for this Board Certification required many hours of intense studying and passing a comprehensive exam. After waiting weeks to find out about the results, shouts of joy could be heard throughout the clinic as the three learned of their passing this stringent certification.

The American Board of Opticianry is a national, non-profit organization which administers voluntary certification examinations for dispensing opticians. Their purpose is to identify qualified eyewear providers by examination, urge growth of optical skills with continuing education, and approve continuing education programs. The ABO/NCLE programs are accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies as having met their standards for certifying agencies.

Marianas Eye Institute has a full service optical center, which includes an in-house laboratory.

One eye care technician, Lin Muleta, also earned her certification in National Contact

Lens Examiners, becoming the CNMI's first eye care technician to achieve this level of certification.

Even the administrative team got on board with their pursuit of higher education. Flor Racoma passed her Ophthalmic Coding Specialist Certification. This type of certification allows for more accurate billing, which reduces mistakes on individual's claims.

Marianas Eye Institute CEO Russ Quinn stated, "We are

proud of our staff's accomplishments. It's a testimony to their hard work. Marianas Eye Institute's goal is to encourage our staff to achieve these high level certifications."

Dr. David Khorram, MD, the CNMI's only ophthalmologist, praised the staff. "Marianas Eye Institute sets itself apart by combining advanced technologies with talented people. We set high standards for our staff so that we can provide the highest levels of care

to our patients. These staff members, particularly Lin and Emilly, who have achieved multiple certifications have accomplished something that very few eye care technicians anywhere are able to accomplish. We're proud of them, and Alex and Flor."

Marianas Eye Institute is located across the street from the 13 Fishermen Monument. Call 235-9090 for an appointment. Or visit their Web site at www.MarianasEye.com. (MEI)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Marianas Eye Institute's newly certified American Board of Opticiany (ABO's) from left to right: Alex Racoma, Emilly Taitano, Erlinda Muleta, and Flor Racoma who received her Ophthalmic Coding Specialist Certification.

Gulf crews prepare to start plugging well for good

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—The only thing keeping millions more gallons of oil out of the Gulf of Mexico right now is a rush job: an experimental cap that has held for more than two weeks but was never meant to be permanent. As soon as this week, crews will be pumping in some insurance.

Engineers are preparing to launch a so-called static kill as early as Monday evening, shoving mud and perhaps cement into the blown-out well to make it easier to plug the gusher up forever and end the Summer of the Spill.

The effort carries no certainty, and BP PLC engineers still plan to follow it up days later by sending a stream of mud and cement into the bottom of the mile-deep underground reservoir and scientists are confident the pressure remains stable, then engineers can pump in fresh cement to seal it.

"The only thing that separates the oil from the sea now is the valve. This puts thousands of feet of mud and cement in between," said Eric Smith, associate director of the Tulane Energy Institute. "The idea is to have as many barriers as possible between the ocean and the

the deep-sea well, which has spewed as much as 184 million gallons since the rig connected to it blew up in April and killed 11 workers.

The developments have the makings for an interesting week.

"It could be the beginning of the end," said Darryl Bourgoine, director of Petroleum Engineering Research Lab at Louisiana State University.

When it begins, crews will slowly pump heavy mud through lines installed last month straight down the throat of the leaky well. If the mud forces the oil back into the massive underground reservoir and scientists are confident the pressure remains stable, then engineers can pump in fresh cement to seal it.

But critics have raised questions about the long-term effects of the dispersant on sea life, and congressional investigators said Saturday that the Coast Guard routinely approved BP requests to use thousands of gallons of chemicals a day despite a federal directive to cut its use.

Retired Coast Guard Adm. Thad Allen said Sunday that federal regulators did not ignore

reservoir. We're adding an extra level of safety."

Officials may then begin the process of choking the underground reservoir feeding the well by pumping mud and then cement down an 18,000-foot relief well. BP officials have long said the process is the only sure way to choke the well for good—plugging up the source of the oil, not just its route to the sea.

No oil has leaked from the busted well since engineers were able to fix a tightly fitting cap over its outlet two weeks ago, and boats skimming the oil and spraying subsea dispersant have been able to contain some of the spill.

But critics have raised questions about the long-term effects of the dispersant on sea life, and congressional investigators said Saturday that the Coast Guard routinely approved BP requests to use thousands of gallons of chemicals a day despite a federal directive to cut its use.

There's always the risk that the pressure exerted by the mud will rupture the casing holding in the oil and potentially cause an even greater mess, but experts say it's very unlikely.

environmental guidelines, but that some field commanders were given the authority to allow more dispersants to be used on a case-by-case basis.

BP's engineers, meanwhile, focus their time on their latest bid to stymie the oil for good. If the static kill attempt sounds familiar, that's because it is. The company tried a similar process, called a top kill, to choke the well with mud in May. It failed partly because the mud couldn't overcome the flow of the oil.

There's reason to hope this time will be different. For one, the oil is no longer freely flowing from the well, thanks to the temporary cap that has contained the out-of-control gusher for two weeks. That means that engineers won't have to pump in mud with as much force, said Kent Wells, a BP senior vice president.

There's always the risk that the pressure exerted by the mud will rupture the casing holding in the oil and potentially cause an even greater mess, but experts say it's very unlikely.

Nation

GOP looks to erase Democrats' comfy House majority

ACROSS THE NATION

Plane crashes in national park in Alaska

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—Officials say a large cargo-type plane has crashed at Denali National Park in Alaska, bursting into a deadly fireball that sparked a forest fire. Park spokeswoman Kris Fister says there are fatalities, but it's unclear how many because "the plane pretty much disintegrated." The fire is challenging responders, who don't know who owns the multiengine aircraft, which went down near the park's northern border about 3:15 p.m. Sunday. Military officials have said none of their planes were involved. Clint Johnson with the National Transportation Safety Board says there are a number of large transport planes operating in Alaska. The park is about 180 miles north of Anchorage.

Teen dies after accident at county fair in Kansas

EMPORIA, Kan. (AP)—A truck in a central Kansas county fair event left a mud track and hit another truck in the spectator area, fatally injuring a 17-year-old girl. Hannah Deaver of Shawnee died at a hospital after the accident Saturday at the Lyon County Fair in Emporia. Police said Deaver was sitting in the bed of a pickup watching the fair's "Mud-A-Thon." One of the modified pickup trucks in the event went through a guardrail, became airborne and hit the pickup where Deaver and another teen were sitting. The other teen was treated at a hospital and later released. Police continue to investigate.

23 injured in Texas balcony collapse

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—The second-floor balcony of a condominium in central Texas collapsed during a party, sending 23 people to the hospital. The collapse happened around 4:15 a.m. Sunday at the Garden Court Condominiums in Austin, about four miles from the city's downtown. Fire Lt. Randy Elmore says about 30 people were on the balcony when it collapsed. He said 23 people were taken to an Austin hospital with injuries ranging from minor scratches to bone fractures. None of the injuries appear to be life-threatening. Hospital spokeswoman Lauren Picallo says all but five people had been released as of early Sunday afternoon.

WASHINGTON (AP)—No fewer than 65 House seats across the country—an overwhelming majority held by Democrats—are at risk of changing political hands this fall, enough to bolster Republican hopes of regaining power and stoke fears in President Barack Obama's party of losing it.

Even more races from California to New York could become competitive by November as voters look to blame someone for the sluggish economic recovery and take out their frustration on the Democrats who run the government. As of now, enough seats are in play that Republicans could gain the 39 they need to reclaim the House, dealing a blow to Obama in the first midterm elections of his presidency.

Primary outcomes and national polls show a restless electorate and energized Republicans. Independents who propelled the Democrats to power in 2006 and 2008 in scores of swing districts are leaning toward the GOP, expressing concerns about excessive spending, government overreach and the spiraling national debt.

Every part of the country features close House contests. At least six are in Pennsylvania and at least five in Ohio. Three apiece or more are in Arizona, Indiana, Florida and Illinois. New Hampshire has two, as does Arkansas.

Democrats say 70 at most are up for grabs; the GOP says the number is closer to 80. In interviews with The Associated Press, lawmakers and party officials from both sides agree that at least 65 of the 435 races are hotly contested—and Democrats are on defense in most.

Democrats just reserved nearly \$50



AP Democratic House Speaker Nancy Pelosi addresses the annual meeting of the National Conference of State Legislatures in Louisville, Ky., Monday, July 26, 2010.

Mullen says US has Iran strike plan—just in case

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. military has a plan to attack Iran, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said Sunday, although he thinks a military strike is probably a bad idea.

Not long after Adm. Mike Mullen's aired on a Sunday talk show, the deputy chief of Iran's Revolutionary Guard was quoted as saying there would be a strong Iranian response should the U.S. take military action against his country.

Mullen, the highest ranking U.S. military officer, often has warned that a strike on Iran would have serious and unpredictable ripple effects around the Middle East. At the same time, Mullen said the risk of Iran's developing a nuclear weapon is unacceptable, although he would not say which risk he thinks is worse.

"I think the military options have been on the table and remain on the table," Mullen said on "Meet the Press" on NBC. "It's one of the options that the

president has. Again, I hope we don't get to that, but it's an important option and it's one that's well understood."

The official Iranian news agency IRNA quoted Revolutionary Guard deputy chief Yadollah Javani as saying Sunday that security in the Persian Gulf would be jeopardized "if Americans commit the slightest mistake."

"The Persian Gulf is a strategic region. If the security of this region is endangered, they will suffer losses too and our response will be firm," Javani said.

Iran repeatedly has threatened to target the heart of Tel Aviv, the second-largest city in Israel, should the U.S. or Israel take military action against it.

The U.S. and Iran are at odds over the goals of Iran's nuclear program. Iran contends that it's aimed at peaceful uses of nuclear energy while the U.S. claims Iran is gearing up to create a nuclear weapon.



Mullen

2 Ariz. inmates still at large; 1 caught in Colo.

PHOENIX (AP)—The search continued Sunday for two convicted murderers who escaped from a private prison in northwest Arizona, while a third escaped convict was back behind bars following an early-morning shootout with police in western Colorado.

Police believe the two who remain at large are still in Arizona.

Early Sunday, a police officer spotted Daniel Renwick, 36, in a brown sport utility vehicle in Rifle, Colo., some 670 miles from the medium-security Arizona State Prison in Golden Valley, said Charles Ryan, director of the Arizona Department of Corrections.

The officer pursued Renwick,

gunshots were exchanged, and the convict was eventually taken into custody without anyone being injured, Ryan said.

Renwick had been serving a 22-year sentence for second-degree murder when he and the other two inmates escaped Friday evening by cutting a hole in the prison's perimeter fence.

The men then kidnapped two semi-truck drivers at gunpoint and used the big rig to flee, authorities said.

Police said the two men who

Inmate who said he'd kill more linked to 2nd death

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—A Virginia inmate who warned prosecutors he would kill again if not given the death penalty for strangling his cellmate was involved in the death of another inmate, authorities said.

Wise County Commonwealth's Attorney Ron Elkins confirmed late Saturday that Robert Gleason Jr. was "involved" in the death of 26-year-old Aaron Alexander Cooper,

though Elkins refused to elaborate. Gleason, who was already serving a life term for murder before killing his cellmate last year, has not been charged in the death.

Cooper died Wednesday in the recreation yard for inmates housed in segregation at the maximum security Red Onion State Prison in southwestern Virginia. Elkins is awaiting a report from the medical examiner on Monday, but he said authorities believe Cooper was strangled.

Authorities are trying to figure out how it could have happened, because each inmate is placed in a separate, small caged-in area for recreation. Elkins said authorities believe Cooper was strangled with a piece of clothing, towel or bed sheet that was somehow

million in TV advertising time for the fall in 60 districts, mostly to protect seats held by their own members.

"Republicans are on offense and Democrats are running for cover," said House GOP leader John Boehner of Ohio. "The Democrats are running from their own record."

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and other party leaders insist they will hold onto the House.

Democrats are counting on their money advantage to stem the losses. The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee has nearly \$17 million more available than the National Republican Congressional Committee to spend this fall. And most of the Democrats' threatened incumbents have a 2-to-1 cash advantage over their GOP challengers.

Rep. Chris Van Hollen, chairman of the Democratic House campaign effort, said his party is confident it will retain its majority. Still, he said keeping such a comfortable majority will be difficult. The current breakdown is 255 Democrats, 178 Republicans and two vacancies. One of those is a Republican-held seat in Indiana; the other is a New York seat that likely will end up in GOP control.

"We've won 55 seats over the last two cycles, and we hold virtually every swing seat in the country. That's what makes it a very challenging cycle but that being said we will win the majority," said Van Hollen, D-Md.

In 1994, the first midterms for Democratic President Bill Clinton, the party was stunned as Republicans swept to power, capturing the House after 40 years.

remain at large—Tracy Province, 42, and John McCluskey, 45—should be considered dangerous. Province was serving a life sentence for murder and robbery, and McCluskey was serving 15 years for second-degree murder, aggravated assault and discharge of a firearm.

The men are believed to be traveling with a woman suspected of helping in the escape, 44-year-old Casslyn Mae Welch.

"The information from law enforcement suggests they are still in Arizona, and there's an all-points bulletin out for these people," Ryan said.

reached through the chain link fence that separates the inmates on the recreation yard.

Elkins said he didn't know when charges might be filed against Gleason.

Gleason is scheduled to be sentenced Aug. 31 for killing his cellmate at Wallens Ridge State Prison last year. He fired his attorneys and pleaded guilty in May, telling prosecutors he would kill again if they didn't seek the death penalty in his case.

"I murdered that man cold-bloodedly. I planned it, and I'm gonna do it again," the 40-year-old Gleason told The Associated Press.

Asia

RP remembers late democracy icon Aquino

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Filipinos paid tribute Sunday to democracy icon Corazon Aquino, who helped lead a 1986 “people power” revolt that ousted a dictator and whose death last year became an emotional springboard for her son’s triumphant run for the presidency.

President Benigno Aquino III led one of several tributes to his mother on the first anniversary of her death, calling on Filipinos to continue her struggle for democracy by helping him confront his Southeast Asian nation’s illnesses, including poverty and pervasive corruption.

“The clamor of our people for change is so deep,” Aquino said during a memorial Mass for his mother at a suburban Manila gymnasium used as a venue for many pro-democracy protests. “None of us can afford to be bystanders.”

Aquino called his late mother “one extraordinary woman,” who remains deeply beloved a year after she died at 76 following a yearlong battle with colon cancer. Her death spurred a massive outpouring of national grief that prompted her only son, a quiet lawmaker and bachelor, to run for the presidency, winning by a landslide margin on May 10.

Throngs of people offered prayers, flowers and lit candles Sunday at her white tomb, which is guarded by soldiers. Masses were held across the predominantly Roman Catholic nation in her honor.

A giant photo mosaic of her smiling image was unfurled by her son at Manila’s seaside Rizal park on Saturday. Its makers were considering submitting the mosaic—the size of about 10



Govt intervenes to resolve airline row

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Officials will hold emergency meetings with national flag carrier Philippine Airlines and its disgruntled pilots to settle a dispute that caused the cancellation of local and international flights, the president said Sunday.

PAL was forced to cancel at least 10 flights, including one to Hong Kong, on Saturday after 25 pilots flying Airbus A320 and A319 aircraft resigned to seek better-paying jobs abroad. Eight domestic flights were canceled on Sunday, the airline said.

President Benigno Aquino III told a news conference a number of his Cabinet members, including those dealing with labor, transport and justice, will separately meet PAL’s management and the pilots as early as Monday to

prevent damage to the economy.

“Hopefully, we’ll be able to come up with a resolution so that the riding public is not inconvenienced and the economy does not suffer in what is an inter-company dispute,” Aquino said.

PAL spokesman Jonathan Gesmundo said the airline ordered the pilots, who resigned in recent days, to return to work, warning them of possible criminal suits for alleged breach of work contracts.

Under government regulation, the pilots needed to stay with PAL for at least six months after resigning to allow the airline to find replacements. Some of the resigned pilots also signed a contract committing to work for PAL for a few years in exchange for the costly aviation

school training provided by the airline, Gesmundo said.

“PAL doesn’t want to get in the way of its pilots’ dream of landing better paying jobs abroad,” the airline said in a statement. “But they have contractual obligations with the company and a moral responsibility to thousands of passengers.”

The resigned pilots were not immediately available for comment.

The airline said steps, including the training of more pilots, were under way to bring flights back to normal within a week.

PAL, founded in 1941, has about 500 pilots and a fleet of 38 aircraft. It flies to 46 domestic and international destinations. It has incurred losses in the last few years because of rising fuel costs and low passenger loads, according to Gesmundo.

Philippine President Benigno Aquino III, right, delivers a speech beside a portrait of his mother, the late President Corazon Aquino, during the 1st anniversary of her death in suburban Manila, Philippines, on Sunday Aug. 1, 2010.

AP

basketball courts and made from about 3,200 pictures of the late president—to Guinness World Records for its size.

Fondly called “Tita (Auntie) Cory,” Corazon Aquino is remembered by many Filipinos as the bespectacled, smiling woman in her trademark yellow dress who helped lead a 1986 non-violent revolt that ousted dictator Ferdinand Marcos and swept her to power.

She inherited the mantle of her husband, Benigno Aquino Jr., an opposition senator gunned down by soldiers at Manila’s airport in 1983 upon his return from U.S. exile to challenge Marcos.

After her presidency ended in 1992, Aquino continued to serve as a moral compass by joining street protests to safeguard democracy and advocate against corruption and human rights violations.

She was among those who called for her son’s predecessor, Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, to resign because of corruption and vote-rigging allegations.

Her son said Sunday that he will proceed with plans for a “Truth Commission” to investigate corruption and vote-rigging allegations against Arroyo despite claims by opponents that the fact-finding body’s establishment was unconstitutional.

Arroyo has steadfastly denied any wrongdoing. She successfully ran for a congressional seat after her turbulent nine years in power ended on June 30.

Floods ravage Pakistan valley that endured Taliban

IMAM DHERI, Pakistan (AP)—This village in Pakistan’s troubled Swat Valley suffered through years of Taliban rule and months of battles between Islamist militants and the army. But for a man who has seen it all, that’s nothing compared to the last three days of flooding.

Pakistan’s impoverished northwest has been wracked by the worst floods in the country’s history—a disaster that has claimed 1,100 lives, wiped out whole villages and left families clinging to the tops of collapsed houses in the hope of being rescued.

The catastrophe also opened up a new front in the U.S. war against Islamist militants, with both groups competing to deliver emergency aid to a region under constant threat of the Taliban.

But for flood victims like Fazal

Maula, a 30-year-old resident of Imam Dheri, it doesn’t matter who delivers the assistance—he just wants to know how he and his family are going to find their next meal and rebuild their lives.

“We saw destruction during the three years of the Taliban and then during their fight with the army. But the destruction we have seen in the last three days is much more,” Maula told an Associated Press reporter who managed to reach the village on a makeshift boat Sunday.

The floods destroyed almost everything in Imam Dheri and the surrounding villages, including houses, shops, vehicles and crops. Residents have received no assistance from the government, and those who haven’t been able to flee by boat are running out of food, said Maula.

The army launched a major offensive

Dutch become 1st NATO member to quit Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—The Netherlands became the first NATO country to end its combat mission in Afghanistan, drawing the curtain Sunday on a four-year operation that was deeply unpopular at home and even brought down a Dutch government.

The departure of the small force of nearly 1,900 Dutch troops is not expected to affect conditions on the ground. But it is politically significant because it comes at a time of rising casualties and growing doubts about the war in NATO capitals, even as allied

troops are beginning what could be the decisive campaign of the war.

Canada has announced it will withdraw its 2,700 troops in 2011 and Polish President Bronislaw Komorowski has promised to pull out his country’s 2,600 soldiers the year after.

That is likely to put pressure on other European governments such as Germany and Britain to scale back their forces, adding to the burden shouldered by the United States, which expects to have 100,000 troops here by the end of next month.

President Barack Obama has pledged

to begin withdrawing American troops starting in July 2011. But Defense Secretary Robert Gates told ABC’s “This Week” broadcast Sunday that only a small number of troops would leave in the initial stage.

The end of the Dutch mission took place amid bad news from Afghanistan—including rising casualties and uncertainty over a strategy that relies heavily on winning Afghan public support through improved security and a better performance by Afghanistan’s corrupt and ineffectual government.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Thailand’s Red Shirts stage new protest in Bangkok

BANGKOK (AP)—Several hundred Red Shirt protesters defied a state of emergency in the Thai capital to stage a symbolic protest, with hundreds of people sprawling on the ground and chanting, “People died here!” The demonstration Sunday at the city’s Democracy Monument was peaceful, but it was the latest sign of simmering discontent since the army cracked down May 19 to disperse a sprawling anti-government protest camp and end 10 weeks of demonstrations calling for early elections. Rolling clashes between troops and Red Shirts killed 90 people and wounded more than 1,400 in the demonstrations’ final weeks. Two grenades have exploded in Bangkok over the past week, killing one bystander and wounding 11.

There have been no claims of responsibility but both are presumed linked to ongoing political tensions

Japanese journalists die on mountain assignment

TOKYO (AP)—Two Japanese journalists reported missing by their television network while pursuing a story of a helicopter crash were found dead on a mountain Sunday near the scene of the accident. Nippon Television reporter Yuji Kita and cameraman Jun Kawaka-

mi were on their way to the scene of the crash that killed five people last weekend. The two men were unresponsive when found Sunday morning partially submerged in a pool of water in a gorge about 980 feet (300 meters) below a mountain trail in Chichibu city, roughly two hours northwest of Tokyo. They were taken to a hospital and declared dead in the afternoon.

8 more protesters killed in Indian Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India (AP)—Four people were gunned down Sunday by security forces who opened fire on thousands of protesters and another four civilians were killed in a blast at a police station, bringing the death toll from weeks of clashes in increasingly violent Indian Kashmir to 31. The explosion happened after the police station was set

on fire by residents angry at two deaths in Khrew, a town near Srinagar where hundreds had been protesting Indian rule, a top police officer said. At least four people were killed and dozens of civilians were injured in the blast, the officer said on condition of anonymity as he didn’t want his name to be used. There were no casualties among the police officers who fled the area as the mob attacked the police station, which also housed a state counterinsurgency police force, the officer said.

World

High Iraq deaths cast doubt on US stability talk

BAGHDAD (AP)—While concern is rising in the U.S. about the war in Afghanistan, the Americans are anxious to show evidence of progress in their other conflict—Iraq.

New Iraqi government figures tell a different story, however, showing civilian casualties hitting their highest level in more than two years—figures the U.S. rushed on Sunday to dispute.

The rejection of the figures, compiled by the Iraqi ministries of defense, interior and health, comes at a delicate time. The American military has pronounced Iraq's security as stabilizing and is going ahead with plans to send home all but 50,000 troops by the end of the month, leaving Iraq's nascent security forces in control. The last American soldier is due to leave by the end of 2011.

Things were not much better in July for the Americans in Afghanistan—where U.S. losses were the highest for any month of the war. The monthly death toll—66—surpassed the previous record of 60 deaths in June. U.S. commanders have warned of more bloodshed as fighting escalates in long-time Taliban strongholds.

Moreover, at least 270 Afghan civilians were killed in the July fighting and nearly 600 wounded—a 29 percent



In this July 22, 2010 file photo, Umm Haider weeps over her son's coffin, Ameer Hussein, 9, during his funeral in Najaf, south of Baghdad, Iraq. The family says he was killed in a roadside bomb attack the day before.

More than seven years after Saddam Hussein's ouster, Iraqi politicians from these rival groups have failed to resolve key issues like sharing wealth, the extent of provincial autonomy and identity.

The U.S. military countered that its own data showed only 222 Iraqis had been killed in July. "We do our very best to be vigilant to ensure the numbers we report are as accurate as can be," spokesman Lt. Col. Bob Owen said in defense of the military's own numbers.

An Associated Press tally indicated that at least 350 Iraqis were killed in July, but this figure is considered a minimum, based on AP reporting. The actual number is likely higher, as many killings go unreported or uncounted.

The three Iraqi ministries release casualty figures each month, but rarely if ever have they been so strongly disputed by the U.S. military as it worries about creating an image of withdrawing too soon.

The troubled transition to full Iraqi control serves as a warning for the U.S. and NATO as they pursue the same broad strategy in Afghanistan. In both countries, the war plan calls for weakening the insurgents on the battlefield while building up local forces capable of handling security while politicians pursue a political settlement.

Raul Castro says state will reduce economic role

HAVANA (AP)—Raul Castro said Sunday that his government will scale back controls on small businesses, lay off unnecessary workers and allow more self-employment—major steps in a country where the state dominates nearly every facet of the economy.

Cuba's president, however, also squashed notions of sweeping economic reform remaking life on the communist-run island.

Castro spoke before parliament, which opened its biannual session without Fidel Castro, who has made a slew of recent public appearances of late but missed another chance to share a major public stage with his younger brother.

Instead, lawmakers got Raul, who scoffed at what he said was speculation by the media that Cuba planned to dig itself out of a financial crisis by implementing major economic changes.

"With experience accumulated in more than 55 years of revolutionary struggle, it doesn't seem like we're doing too badly, nor that desperation or frustration have been our companions along the way," the president said.

Still, Castro went on to suggest that potentially landmark reforms are on the horizon, saying authorities will "update the Cuban economic model." They plan to reduce state control of small businesses, authorize more Cubans to become self-employed and build a new tax structure that will compel state employees to contribute more.

About 95 percent of all Cubans currently work for the government and Castro has suggested that as many as one in five state employees are redundant. He promised job cuts, calling for "the reduction of work forces that are considerably bloated in the state sector."

French opposition: Sarkozy scapegoating minorities

PARIS (AP)—French opposition lawmakers and media attacked a host of new government proposals targeting Gypsies and immigrants suspected of crimes, charging Sunday that President Nicolas Sarkozy was pandering to the far-right in a bid to boost his popularity.

The interior minister defended the measures, calling them part of France's "war against insecurity."

Sarkozy said Friday that he wants to revoke the French citizenship of immigrants who endanger the life of police officers. The speech Friday in the southeastern city of Grenoble—the site of recent clashes between youth and police—was a dramatic move to the right even for the conservative leader, who has put forward a law-and-order image.

Earlier in the week, Sarkozy pushed for a change in France's immigration law to make it easier to expel Gypsies, or Roma, in the country illegally and pledged to evacuate their camps, which he called a source of trafficking, prostitution and child exploitation.

The centrist *Journal du Dimanche* newspaper suggested that Sarkozy was



Sarkozy

staking his claim to the anti-immigrant platform that has for decades been a mainstay of the extreme-right National Front party, in a bid to win the support of deeply conservative swaths of the population and the minority far-right.

Sarkozy's approval rating has been sliding and a financial scandal has embroiled a top minister. His new moves have angered many, from leftist politicians to French Gypsy, or Roma, leaders to immigrants' rights advocates

"This speech is a declaration of war against the (French) Republic," the *Journal du Dimanche* quoted Mouloud Aounit, the head of the MRAP anti-racism organization, as saying.

In a statement Sunday, the Socialist Party said Sarkozy "is trying to distract (the public's) attention by using that old standby—provocation."

The *Journal du Dimanche* cited Green Party head Noel Mamere as saying in reference to Sarkozy that the National Front's aging leader, Jean-Marie Le Pen, and his daughter and party vice president Marine Le Pen, "needn't talk anymore, their copy is speaking for them."

Hundreds of new wildfires break out in Russia

VORONEZH, Russia (AP)—Hundreds of new fires broke out Sunday in Russian forests and fields that have been dried to a crisp by drought and record heat, but firefighters claimed success in bringing some of the wildfires raging around cities under control.

The firefighters got much-needed help from residents desperate to save their homes, who shoveled sand onto the flames and carted water in large plastic bottles. The wildfires that began threatening much of western Russia last week have killed 28 people and destroyed or damaged 77 towns or villages, the Emer-

gencies Ministry said. Thousands of people have been evacuated from areas in the path of flames, but no deaths have been recorded since late Wednesday.

Troops and volunteers have joined tens of thousands of firefighters in combating the fires, which blazed just outside Moscow and in several provinces east and south of the capital.

The region around Voronezh, a city of 850,000 people about 300 miles (475 kilometers) south of Moscow, has been one of the worst hit. Half of the 300 homes in the village of Maslovka were reduced to cinders.

WORLD BRIEFS

UNESCO adds 5 sites to the World Heritage List

SAO PAULO (AP)—UNESCO added five cultural sites to its World Heritage List on Sunday, including the Imperial Citadel of Thang Long-Hanoi in Vietnam. The citadel, built in the 11th century by the Viet Dynasty, became the 900th site listed as a World Heritage Property. With the other four sites added, the total increased to 904. The new sites are the historic monuments of Dengfeng in China, the archaeological site Sarazm in Tajikistan, the Episcopal city of Albi in France and a 17th-century canal ring in Amsterdam. On Saturday, UNESCO added nine sites to the list, including Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands, home to nuclear bomb testing in the 1940s and 1950s.

UNESCO said the tests had "major consequences" on the geology and environment of the atoll and symbolized "the dawn of nuclear age. Also added to the list Saturday were the Turaiif District in Saudi Arabia; Australia's penal colony sites; the Jantar Mantar astronomical observation site in India; a shrine in Ardabil, Iran; the Tabriz historic bazaar complex, also in Iran; and the historic villages of Hahoe and Yangdong in South Korea. The U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's meeting to consider cultural sites for listing ends Tuesday.

Israel warns Hamas after rocket fire

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israel's prime minister issued a stern warning Sunday to Gaza's Hamas rulers after a weekend of rocket attacks from the Palestinian territory on Israeli com-

munities. Benjamin Netanyahu told his Cabinet that Israel holds the Islamic militant group responsible for the rare flare-up in violence and would retaliate for any attack against its people. "I see the Hamas as directly responsible for any attack that comes from the Gaza Strip toward the state of Israel and the international community should see it this way as well," Netanyahu said. "Israel reserves the right to defend its citizens and we will continue to use all means to protect the people of Israel and the children of Israel." The attacks, including a rocket fired Friday at an Israeli city six miles (10 kilometers) from Gaza, caused damage but no injuries. No Palestinian group took responsibility for the attacks.

Firefighting plane crash in Canada kills 2

VICTORIA, British Columbia (AP)—Two pilots were confirmed dead Sunday in the crash of a Canadian waterbombing plane that was fighting a forest fire. The wildfire and steep terrain kept rescue workers from reaching the crash site after the plane went down Saturday night about 100 miles (160 kilometers) northeast of Vancouver. The plane, carrying two pilots, was chartered by the provincial government from Conair in Abbotsford, British Columbia, to battle wildfires about 18 kilometers (11 miles) south of Lytton. Conair had a second plane shadowing the one that crashed and was able to pinpoint the location of the site. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police confirmed the pilots' deaths, and said the plane was badly damaged after it crashed and burst into flames.

Focus

By SOPHIA TAREEN
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

Guillermo Campos Ojeda stares blankly at the clouds from the jetliner's window, mentally retracing the 22 years that he lived in the United States as an illegal immigrant.

His odyssey began in 1988 with an illegal border crossing and ended in May when he was pulled over for driving without a license. In between were double shifts at a Chicago factory, a string of run-ins with the law, a marriage and his ultimate joy: the birth of his daughter, now 2, who is a U.S. citizen.

But on this flight arranged by the federal government, his journey takes a new turn: Ojeda is being deported along with 52 other illegal immigrants. Their day starts at a suburban Chicago processing center and ends with a lonely



A look inside the government's deportation flights

walk across a bridge from Brownsville, Texas, into Mexico.

"For 10 years, I worked two jobs. I didn't ask the government for anything, not welfare, nothing," he said in Spanish, awkwardly wiping away tears with the backs of his hands, which are shackled like those of all the passengers. "I'm not perfect, but there are consequences, and I have to pay."

Flights like this one leave from some 40 U.S. cities, sometimes on a daily basis. In the last year, more than 350,000 illegal immigrants have been deported—about 220,000 by plane. The number of immigrants sent back to their homelands has more than tripled in the last decade and is expected to continue soaring.

An Associated Press reporter was permitted to go on a recent flight, obtaining a rare glimpse into the emotional final hours of illegal immigrants who are leaving their American lives for uncertain futures in Mexico.

The day starts before sunrise for each of the 53 deportees brought from area prisons to a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement center in Broadview, Ill.

In large holding cells, many of the immigrants wait wrapped in scratchy brown blankets as Mexican consulate officials review their papers and give each \$20 to use on the other side of the border.

Ojeda says goodbye to his wife and child over a phone in a room where glass separates visitors. Speaking into the telephone, he looks intently at his wife and baby girl. Nearby a sign reads, "No touching allowed."

Most of those aboard the flight came to authorities' attention after being convicted of a crime in the U.S. One was convicted of murder, 16 for assault, 11 for driving under the influence, nine for drug charges and six for theft. Another six had no criminal background.

By 9 a.m., they are lined up, searched and shackled—no matter the crime. The sound of chains and handcuffs echoes down the hallway.

"I'll be on my way back, man!" a man yells at a guard as he's being cuffed.

Among the group is 24-year-old Alberto Ortiz Hernandez, who came to the U.S. as a teenager, speaks better English than Spanish and has a wife who is a U.S. citizen.

The baby-faced resident of Appleton, Wis., missed an important 2009 hearing in his immigration case and was im-

searched, security officers lay out the immigrants' bags on the tarmac, each one marked with a mug shot. One beat-up black duffel bag was filled with clothes. A green barracks bag is topped with socks. One clear plastic bag has two Spanish Bibles in it.

Moises Calvillo, a Los Angeles man with a shaved head and goatee, has one of the longest rap sheets in the group—weapons charges, battery, immigration offenses. This is his third deportation from the U.S.

The 46-year-old arrived in 1979 from

searchers, that's what they do," said ICE's chief of flight operations, Craig Charles. "They live there. They come across, and they'll get caught. It is a revolving door."

Later this year, the agency is set to start a tactic aimed at deterring immediate re-crossings. Flights will be taken to the interior of Mexico, which will make it harder for immigrants to return right away.

Even so, experts are doubtful illegal immigration will decline without economic incentives or a significant

In the last year, more than 350,000 illegal immigrants have been deported—about 220,000 by plane.

mediately ordered deported. Hernandez didn't leave, but lived as covertly as possible until he was picked up in March for driving without a license.

He has a shot at coming back to the U.S. legally but will have to wait for several years in Mexico City with his mother and two sisters.

"I want to do the right thing," he says.

His wife, Farrah Hernandez, who's expecting a child, worries about paying bills without her husband's income.

"If he comes back the wrong way, he'll never be able to apply for residency," she said in a phone interview. "The only thing you can do is wait."

At a quiet terminal away from the hustle of the nation's second-busiest airport, deportation flights leave O'Hare International Airport twice a week. They are chartered either by ICE or the U.S. Marshals Service.

As passengers are patted down and

Tijuana and started making jewelry at a shop in southern California. The next few decades were laden with arrests and convictions.

He expects this to be his final trip back to Mexico. The jewelry business had been declining and communication with his eight children had been minimal. They are all U.S. citizens, including a probation officer, a soldier stationed in Iraq and a deputy for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office.

"I can't complain," he says while awaiting the flight. "Nobody mistreated me."

Some of the immigrants sent away on these flights will be back, perhaps soon. Authorities at ICE say they must carry out the law, even when that means returning the same people repeatedly at an average cost of \$650 per person for the one-way flight.

"It's a fact of life. They're the bor-

der crossers, that's what they do," said ICE's chief of flight operations, Craig Charles. "They live there. They come across, and they'll get caught. It is a revolving door."

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Even so, experts are doubtful illegal immigration will decline without economic incentives or a significant

change in the law.

Most people, including the estimated 12 million illegal immigrants living in the U.S., are waiting to hear more from President Barack Obama, who so far has addressed immigration reform by amping up border security and challenging Arizona's controversial immigration law, the toughest in the nation.

"He's talked a lot," said Rene Roman Navarrete, a 36-year-old illegal immigrant from Acapulco aboard the flight who's crossed illegally at least twice. "But nothing has been done."

Aboard the plane, the journey feels similar to a commercial flight, except for the nearly two dozen armed guards and the soft clinking of handcuff chains that can sometimes be heard amid the roar of the jet engines.

Sitting in 9A—a few rows away from the male passengers—is 28-year-old Yesenia Pereyda Martinez, the sole

Mexican immigrant Javier Castillo, center, walks on the tarmac after he was flown from Chicago to Harlingen, Texas for deportation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Tuesday, May 25, 2010. AP

woman in the group.

The suburban Chicago mother of three crossed illegally into the U.S. in 2000 by walking for two days through the desert. She carries a painful reminder of the journey every day: her toes are deformed and stubby from the shoes she wore. Now wearing anything but open-toed shoes is painful. On the day of the deportation flight, she wears fuzzy black flip-flops.

Martinez sits still nearly the entire three-hour flight. Her brown-bag lunch of a bologna sandwich, vanilla cake and apple goes untouched.

"I am scared," she says.

She spends the flight thinking of her children: 8-year-old Julianna, who loves to draw and do homework; 6-year-old Guadalupe, who rebels against homework; and their 1-year-old baby brother.

Martinez took a risky trip back to Mexico earlier this year to see an ailing family member for the last time. Then the smuggling van that was returning her to the U.S. was pulled over by an Illinois state trooper just hours from her home in the Chicago suburb of Cicero.

While she waits in a holding cell on the day of the flight, a guard hands her a cell phone to make a final call to Luis, a man she calls her husband, though they have no legal union.

"I don't have a lot of time, Luis," she says in Spanish before telling him she has \$200 to take to the home of her father, a man she hardly knows. "I'll talk to you later. Cuidate. Gracias. Bye."

Her future plans are murky. But she knows her mother, sister and Luis will take care of the children. She wants them to finish their education. The children think their mom is just on a trip to see family.

"They don't want to leave," she said.

When the plane lands in Harlingen, Texas, the immigrants are loaded on a bus that drives by fields of tall sorghum on the way to the border.

In Brownsville, officers unshackle each of the detainees, hand them their belongings and walk them across the high-traffic bridge.

As the group crosses, one pedestrian spots them, throws his hands up and mutters, "It's a revolving door!"

Waiting on the other side are smugglers on the lookout for deported immigrants, who are easily spotted by the bags of belongings that bear their names and mugshots.

Ojeda was among the last people released. In 1998, he tried to cross and was apprehended by border agents who sent him back the same day. He made another attempt shortly thereafter.

But this time, he says, he won't try to come back. The consequences are too great: an increased jail sentence and the threat to his health, especially because of his diabetes.

Carrying a small bag of clothes, a little cash and a two-week supply of insulin, the 40-year-old man walks over the bridge. Despite the hardship of separation, he won't consider asking his family to join him in Mexico.

"There isn't work. There aren't resources. There are a lot of drugs. There's a lot of violence," Ojeda says. "I wouldn't bring my daughter into that."

Overdrive

By MARK PHELAN
DETROIT FREE PRESS

Jeep comes through.

That's not a review. It's the brand's biography and mission statement.

Jeep built its reputation with vehicles that can get through, over or around any obstacle erected by man or nature.

Hauling Chrysler out of the pit of bankruptcy and bad management that engulfed the automaker in recent years may be the toughest challenge in Jeep's 70-year history, but the 2011 Jeep Grand Cherokee is on the job.

The capable and luxurious Grand Cherokee was built to surmount not just physical obstacles like the Rocky Mountains' legendary Rubicon Trail, but skepticism about Chrysler's future and political resentment that the automaker used government assistance to survive the crash of '09.

The new Grand Cherokee offers more comfort and advanced features than any Jeep before it, without losing the off-road capability that is the brand's raison d'être.

Prices for the 2011 Grand Cherokee start at \$30,215 for a rear-drive model with a 290-horsepower 3.6-liter V6 and five-speed automatic transmission.

The least-expensive four-wheel drive model costs \$32,215. Grand Cherokees equipped with a 5.7-liter 360-horsepower V8 and a five-speed automatic start at \$35,710 for rear-drive and \$37,710 with four-wheel drive. The top model, a V8 4x4 in the high-end Overland trim level, costs \$42,615 before options.

I tested a very well-equipped V6 Grand Cherokee Limited 4x4 that stickered at \$42,720. All prices exclude destination charges.

The V6 Grand Cherokee competes primarily with SUVs like the Land Rover LR2, Mercedes-Benz GLK 350,



Detroit Free Press auto critic Mark Phelan test-drives the 2011 Jeep Grand Cherokee at an abandoned gravel pit near Tecumseh, Michigan, July 15, 2010.

MCT

2011 Grand Cherokee could resuscitate Chrysler

Lexus GX 460, Nissan Pathfinder and Toyota 4Runner.

The Grand Cherokee has the guts for serious off-roading.

Available with three four-wheel drive systems for varying degrees of difficulty, the Grand Cherokee devours difficult terrain.

NUTS & BOLTS

2011 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED 4X4 Four-wheel drive five-passenger SUV

Price as tested: \$42,720 (excluding destination charge)

Rating: Four out of four stars

Reasons to buy: Off-road ability, comfort, looks, features

Shortcomings: Highway acceleration, minor trim misalignments

senger capacity of those suburban warriors, however.

Among vehicles with serious off-road capability, the Grand Cherokee is a leader and an excellent value.

It also behaves itself on paved surfaces. An optional air suspension automatically adjusts vehicle height

errands to twisty back roads, snowy streets, sand, mud or extreme rock climbing.

The 4x4 system is nearly all automatic. It will select the appropriate settings depending on driving style and road conditions, but a dial on the Grand Cherokee's center console also lets the driver choose from among the SUV's five on- and off-road modes and engage the low range of gears for the toughest off-road adventures.

The Grand Cherokee easily conquers rocks, hills and mud pits that defeat lesser vehicles. It's also comfortable and quiet on pavement, thanks to features ranging from radar-based automatic cruise control to heated and ventilated seats.

The interior is comfortable and accommodating. The new Grand Cherokee is about 4 inches longer than the old model.

The extra length improves rear leg-

room and cargo capacity. Headroom is excellent.

The roomy front seat has simple controls and clear, elegant gauges.

Jeep used high-quality materials that look and feel luxurious to cover every surface. A couple of pieces of trim didn't line up correctly, however, and there was a rough spot on the steering wheel of the otherwise top-notch interior of the Grand Cherokee I tested.

Chrysler's new 3.6-liter V6 debuts in the Grand Cherokee and will eventually power models from SUVs to pickups, midsize sedans and large cars.

It has good power, but the V6 Grand Cherokee struggles a bit in highway acceleration. Acceleration is acceptable once the five-speed automatic transmission downshifts.

The eight-speed transmission coming from Chrysler in a couple of years will be welcome.

That transmission should also improve the Grand Cherokee's fuel economy, which is not exceptional. With EPA ratings of 16 mpg city, 22 mpg highway and 18 mpg combined, the V6 4x4 beats comparable models of the Land Rover LR2, Mercedes GLK 350 and Nissan Pathfinder. It trails the Toyota 4Runner.

The Grand Cherokee, 4Runner and LR2 run on regular gasoline, while the GLK and V6 Pathfinder require premium.

The SUV's styling displays Jeep's hallmark angular wheelwells and seven-slot grille. The broad-shouldered, capable profile's rounded surfaces look much more contemporary than those of the old model.

The 2011 Jeep Grand Cherokee blends the brand's historic off-road ability with new levels of comfort and technical sophistication. It's the winner Chrysler needed to pull out of the morass that mired the company in recent years.

MUSHY BRAKES COULD BE CAUSED BY CYLINDER LEAK

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I have a 2000 Honda Civic with more than 194,000 miles on it that runs like a well-tuned top. The brakes work, but after using them for a while they turn mushy, and after sitting at a stoplight they sink to the floor. I have no problem stopping, and the brakes have been bled.

ANSWER: If the brake pedal slowly sinks to the floor as you sit at a stop with your foot lightly on the pedal, yet stays solid without sinking if you pump the pedal once and hold firm pressure, replace the master cylinder. This symptom is called a master cylinder bypass leak. The cup seals are allowing brake fluid to leak past them when only light pressure is applied to the pedal. When firm pressure is applied, the seals expand properly into the bore of the master cylinder and hold firmly.

Q: I have a 2004 Jeep Grand Cherokee with 120,000 miles. Recently I was changing the brake pads and I noticed a lot of thick black grease on the caliper, pads and inside of the left rear rotor. I couldn't find anything that I thought could be the source of the grease. I did notice just behind the wheel well toward the bumper there is some sort of pump that was also covered in grease, but I don't know exactly what part I was looking at. Do you have any idea what may be the source of this grease, and should I be concerned?

A: The left rear axle seal is leaking differen-

tial gear oil. The pump you see is the evaporative emission system leak detection pump, and it's covered with gear oil from the axle seal leak.

Q: My wife's '03 Saturn Vue with 35,000 miles seems to have a not-too-loud rumble when accelerating to 60 miles per hour. It occurs intermittently a few minutes at a time and stops doing it when decelerating to 55. It seems to be powertrain-related. Never had any problems before, nothing but 3,000-mile oil changes.

A: If the Saturn is AWD, my Alldata automotive database pulled up service bulletin 04-04-20-001 dated February 2004 that identifies a "drone noise between 50 to 75 mph" that could be caused by a lack of dampening of the rear differential assembly. A new rear mount bushing was issued to address this.

Other possible causes include a slipping torque converter clutch, wheel bearing, front-drive axle constant-velocity (CV) joint or even a tire problem. Swap the tires front to back for a test drive to determine whether this influences the rumble.

Q: I have an '05 F-150 with 47,000 miles. I get a shudder from 0 to 20 mph when I accelerate. It is more noticeable when I start out on an incline. It's much worse when I pull my boat but totally disappears after 20 mph. Ideas?

A: Ask the Ford dealer to check the rear-axle pinion angle, as in service bulletin 06-19-16 dated October 2006. Lowering the axle pinion with a special shim/wedge kit may eliminate the shudder.

Q: We have a 2003 Dodge Ram 1500 truck. Just recently, the air conditioning blows hot when idling or in park. The air conditioning blows really cold when the vehicle is in motion. What could be causing the problem?

A: The air-conditioning pressure transducer on the high-pressure side of the system supplies a signal to the powertrain control module (PCM) that influences A/C operation. Low refrigerant level, high coolant temperatures and very low ambient temperatures can prevent the PCM from allowing the A/C compressor to engage. Buy a gauge or have a shop check A/C pressures to see if the system needs recharging.

QUESTION: We aren't sure you can solve this argument, or even if there's a correct answer, but here goes: What's the quickest way to cool down a car parked in the sun? My friends' opinions range from rolling the windows down to let out the heat, to starting to drive immediately so cool air gets under the hood, to using the fresh air setting before using the "recirculate" feature, to directing the air to your feet first to force hot air up and out. Thoughts?

ANSWER: I have my own opinions, but so does Derek Joyce. And since he is the chief product planner for the premium car division of Hyundai—that includes the upcoming Equus, which will take on the Mercedes-Benz S-Class—"and past owner of a lot of cars with black interiors," let's go with what he has to say:

"I get in, roll down all the windows, turn the air conditioning to maximum, which automatically puts it into recirculating mode, and get the car moving as quickly as I can."

Joyce says it takes modern air conditioning compressors about 60 seconds to properly circulate coolant. "During that period, with the air conditioning and the fan on the highest setting, you're creating a breeze that is forcing overheated air out of the car. When you feel like the air inside the car is equivalent in temperature to the air outside, then it's time to roll up the windows. And by then, the air conditioning should be effectively cooling the interior."

Joyce finds the idea of first directing air at your feet intriguing, but it would likely create less of a forced airflow to blow the hottest air out of the car than if the air is directed from the regular air conditioning vents. Of course, the cooling process will go more quickly if you can find even partial shade to park in, or use a reflective or light-colored shield against the windshield that will block direct sunlight from shining onto the dashboard and upholstery.

Paul Brand, author of *How to Repair Your Car*, is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: Star Tribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488 or via e-mail at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. It isn't always possible to send a personal reply.

Life & Style

Peas 'I Gotta Feeling' hits 6M downloads

NEW YORK (AP)—The Black Eyed Peas have more proof of the ubiquity of "I Gotta Feeling."

Their No. 1 hit has become the first song to reach the 6 million mark in digital downloads.

The milestone was announced Friday and confirmed by Nielsen SoundScan. For the group's leader, will.i.am, the moment is about much more than the song.

"We came out in '98 and our career, if you would look at it on chart, there's no dips in it," he said in a phone interview Thursday. "For our career to still be healthy and vibrant and doing things like 6 million downloads, it's pretty significant."

It's also significant, he said, in a time when illegal downloading is the norm.

"That means that they chose to support the group, support the art," he said. "God knows how many people listened to it online and didn't buy it, downloaded it for free and didn't think about it."

The upbeat song about good vibes was No. 1 for 14 weeks; will.i.am said the reason it was so successful was because it gave people hope in a downward time.

"It's a positive, feel-good song at the time where there's question marks and uncertainty. People want to be reminded that it's going to be all right," he said.

The song was one of the hits from the group's multiplatinum "The E.N.D.," which was released last year. Although it is still on the charts, will.i.am said a new album, "The Beginning," is almost finished and likely due at the end of the year.

"It symbolizes growth, new beginnings and starts, fresh new perspective," he said.



Stacy "Fergie" Ferguson, left, and will.i.am., of the band Black Eyed Peas perform on stage as part of Good Morning America's summer concert series in New York on Friday July 30, 2010. AP

For Sheryl Crow, new album reflects her emotions

By NEKESA MUMBI MOODY
AP MUSIC WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Although working from home is convenient, sometimes it pays to go to the office.

That is what Sheryl Crow discovered when she jettisoned her Nashville home studio for a Los Angeles one to record her latest album, "100 Miles From Memphis." The L.A. location led a few famous friends to stop by, including Justin Timberlake.

"I dragged him into the studio and said, 'I want you to hear something,'" she recalled. She played him her cover of Terence Trent D'Arby's "Sign Your Name," redone with a Memphis sound.

"He looked at me and said, 'You know, I'm from Memphis ... I've got the backgrounds on this.' And he came in and he sang on this," she said. "That sort of thing doesn't happen when you're working from home."

The album also has other guests, including Keith Richards and Citizen Cope. But the star of the album is the sound of Memphis, a mix of rock, soul and country that influenced the 48-year-old when she grew up in Kennett, Missouri, which, as the title of her album says, is about 100 miles away.

AP: Your last album, "Detours," delved into politics and personal hardship. Did you intentionally plan a lighter record with "Memphis"?

Crow: Your life always influences your art or informs your art, and the last record, I felt a real sense of urgency about that record, about the themes on that record. ... I have two kids now, and although I'm deeply invested emotionally in what's going on politically, what's going on in this country, what's going on environmentally, I think my heart was in a place of wanting to just be emotional and be in a place of vulnerability and write songs from a place of desire, and that's already historically what R&B music is about anyway.

AP: You have said that the market

wasn't interested in your last album because of the serious themes. Does that ever frustrate you?

Crow: I don't feel stifled because I'm going to make the kind of record that I want to make just because it is an extension of who I am. It would be difficult to put parameters on that. ... I still believe in that record. I believe in the "Detours" record and I believe it



Sheryl Crow performs a song from her latest album "A Thousand Miles From Memphis" during the Good Morning America summer concert series in Central Park, Friday July 23, 2010. AP

will have longevity ... it will definitely be a snapshot of the time we were living in. But I would have made that record no matter what. And this record is necessary because of where I am now.

AP: You recently adopted a second child. How has life changed?

Crow: Having one is like having one, having two is like having 20. But like I said, it's double the love. It just gets bigger and bigger.

My son is really loving having a little brother. He feels like he came into our lives for him, which is the way I want him to feel. It's only changing insofar as when you're on tour, obviously, it's about creating a home on a tour bus. Wyatt is very adapted to that, and Levi is just a baby. He doesn't know anything different.

AP: What is your outlook now as far as what you want to do musically and personally?

Crow: The breast cancer experience for me was a reminder that we can't really control anything. ... For me it was a great reminder first of who I am. ... It dictated that I make big assessments about my life and what I wanted my life to look like from that point on, and it gave me an opportunity for me to reflect on how I had gotten to the place where I was. And just the act of saying no on my own behalf was a real challenge for me, and now, I look at my life and I can only say that making plans for me is not realistic. It's all about being inspired and being authentic.

AP: Does part of that life include romance?

Crow: I will tell you that I guard my private life ferociously. The last experience that I had (with Lance Armstrong) was so public, and it was not an experience that I want to go through again. So I really keep my private life extremely private. I don't show up to places with my relationships because I don't want to invite that in again.

AP: I'm sure your friend Jennifer Aniston has given you advice on that as well.

Crow: We don't talk about the celebrity aspect of it ... For me, I don't feel like that's the biggest part of who I am. I feel like it's the smallest part of who I am, and when I'm in those instances where there are cameras around, I'm reminded, "Oh yeah, I'm a public person," but I live my life extremely normally. We live in Nashville now. There's no paparazzi and that part of my life doesn't exist down there, so we live a very basic, normal life, and I can have relationships that are completely out of the public eye.

Comic book buff selling rare copy of Batman No. 1

FAIRBANKS, Alaska (AP)—A longtime Alaska comic book buff is selling one of the gems in his vast collection, a rare copy of Batman No. 1, Superman No. 17 and an old issue of a Red Ryder Western comic.

Mike Wheat of Fairbanks has put the 1940 comic book on the auction block through Dallas-based Heritage Auction Galleries, where it's expected to fetch more than \$40,000. Online bids already have climbed to \$35,000 for the book, believed to be one of fewer than 300 still in existence.

Online bids will compete with a live auction set for Thursday. The second and fourth Batman issues also will be part of Thursday's auction. They are expected to bring more than \$5,000 combined.

Wheat, a retired city wastewater treatment plant operator, said he considers the Batman comics an investment. He said it feels like the right time to sell.

"I just decided it's time for someone else to have it," he said.

The Batman No. 1 comic book was discovered after local businessman Ron Jaeger bought an old dresser at a garage sale in the early 1970s, then kept it in storage for a few years. When Jaeger finally brought it out, he noticed one of the drawers didn't slide easily.

Three comic books and a few old issues of the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner

were tucked beneath the drawer and a quarter-inch piece of plywood. The haul included a copy of Batman No. 1, Superman No. 17 and an old issue of a Red Ryder Western comic.

Wheat already had a reputation as an avid comic collector in 1974, and Jaeger sold him the comic books for \$300.

The auction house has handled many copies of Batman No. 1, but Wheat's copy is notable because the low humidity and cool temperatures in Fairbanks have kept the paper in excellent condition, said Barry Sandoval, director of comic auctions and operations at Heritage. Old comics were printed on cheap newsprint, but the pages in Wheat's copy remain white and crisp.

"If we got a Batman No. 1 from Texas or Louisiana, if you opened it up after 70 years the pages would start to crumble," Sandoval said.

The condition of comics is graded on a scale of one to 10. Wheat's copy has been graded a 5.5. That's a middling score for a newer comic, but impressive for a vintage copy.

"I see how most comics from that era look," Sandoval said. "Most 70-year-old comics are in pretty rough shape."

Batman No. 1 was the first solo spin-off for the character, who made his first appearance in 1939 as a character in Detective Comics No. 27. The debut includes the original appearances by two of Batman's key foes, the Joker and Catwoman.

'Inception' outclasses 'Schmucks' at box office

LOS ANGELES (AP)— "Inception" is still kicking at the box office.

The mind-bending Warner Bros. thriller starring Leonardo DiCaprio remained the No. 1 movie for the third-straight weekend with \$27.5 million, bringing its total to \$193.3 million, according to studio estimates Sunday. "Inception" edged out the weekend's new releases: "Dinner for Schmucks," "Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore" and "Charlie St. Cloud."

"Inception" has seeped into the cultural zeitgeist," said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com. "It's something that everyone is talking about right now. When a movie is able to do that and something just clicks, it becomes a national—even an international—discussion, and it's seemingly impervious to any of



Leonardo DiCaprio as Cobb, left, and Cillian Murphy as Robert Fischer Jr. in a scene from the Warner Bros. movie "Inception."

venge of Kitty Galore" fetched \$12.5 million in the No. 5 spot. "Charlie St. Cloud," the Universal Pictures drama starring Zac Efron, debuted at No. 6 with \$12.1 million.

"For us to clearly be the runaway of the three new films this weekend and come as close as we did to 'Inception,' which is a wonderful movie, is pretty solid," said Don Harris, Paramount's vice

rogue suffered a 47 percent drop from its \$36.5 million opening weekend. During the busy summer movie season, top hits often drop 50 percent or more in the second weekend.

Overall revenues rose for the fifth-straight weekend as Hollywood continued to recover from a lackluster box office earlier in the summer. Receipts totaled \$145 million, up over 15

1. **"Inception,"** \$27.5 million.
2. **"Dinner for Schmucks,"** \$23.3 million.
3. **"Salt,"** \$19.2 million.
4. **"Despicable Me,"** \$15.5 million.
5. **"Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore,"** \$12.5 million.
6. **"Charlie St. Cloud,"** \$12.1 million.
7. **"Toy Story 3,"** \$5 million.
8. **"Grown Ups,"** \$4.5 million.
9. **"The Sorcerer's Apprentice,"** \$4.3 million.
10. **"The Twilight Saga: Eclipse,"** \$3.9 million.

percent from the same weekend last year, when receipts totaled \$125.7 million and the Judd Apatow film "Funny People" debuted in the No. 1 spot with \$22.6 million.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Final figures will be released Monday.

the newcomers."

"Dinner for Schmucks," the Paramount comedy starring Steve Carell and Paul Rudd, followed closely behind "Inception" with \$23.3 million, while the Warner Bros. 3-D sequel "Cats & Dogs: The Re-

race, but it really wasn't."

"Salt" clung to No. 3 with \$19.2 million in its second weekend, bringing its total to a solid \$70.8 million. The Sony spy caper starring Angelina Jolie as a CIA operative who goes

Dennis Rodman unhurt when Land Rover flips in Fla.

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP)—Former NBA star Dennis Rodman walked away unhurt after riding in an SUV that flipped over on an interstate in South Florida.

Sgt. Mark Wysocky of the Florida Highway Patrol said Rodman and another passenger weren't injured in the single-vehicle crash on Saturday on Interstate 95 near Fort Lauderdale. The driver was taken to a hospital.

Wysocky said the Land Rover flipped over after having a tire problem. No charges are expected.

Rodman's agent, Darren Prince, said he spoke with his client on Sunday, and he confirmed that he was unhurt. Rodman had just returned to the U.S. from the Caribbean island of St. Tropez, where he had a disc-jockey gig.

"Thank God he's OK," Prince said. "He walked out with a little scratch on his finger."

Prince said that Rodman told

This July 19, 2008, file photo, former NBA basketball player Dennis Rodman poses before the Ed Hardy swimwear runway show in Miami Beach, Fla.

him, "I'm still living brother. They can't get rid of me."

Rodman told his agent that the driver had a gash in his head and was in stable condition.

Known for his flamboyance on and off the court, Rodman won three NBA championships with Chicago and two with Detroit. He led the league in

Fox gets front-row seat in White House press room

NEW YORK (AP)—Fox News Channel has been granted a much-coveted front-row seat in the White House briefing room.

The White House Correspondents Association said Sunday that The Associated Press reporter has been moved to the front-row center seat previously occupied by Helen Thomas. Fox's correspondent will take the AP's former front-row seat, and National Public Radio's correspondent will move up one row to Fox's old second-row seat.

The center seat was long held by Thomas, a United Press International and Hearst News

Service writer. The 89-year-old columnist resigned abruptly in June amid controversy over videotaped remarks she made calling on Israelis to get "out of Palestine." Fox, Bloomberg News (also seated in the second row) and NPR had lobbied for Thomas' seat.

Fox's upgrade is an acknowledgment of its "length of service and commitment," the association's board said in a statement.

The bid from Fox for a front-row seat sparked a protest from some over the network's perceived right-wing leanings. The advocacy groups Working Assets and MoveOn.org launched

rebounding seven consecutive seasons in the 1990s and was named defensive player of the year twice.

He has appeared in several movies and TV shows, including the 1997 film "Double Team" with Jean Claude Van Damme and "Celebrity Rehab with Dr. Drew."

In a statement posted on the Working Assets website Credo Action on Sunday, the group said, "While we're disappointed that the seat did not go to NPR, we're delighted the board found a way to avoid giving the coveted front-row seat to Fox."

To some, the competition over a front-row seat didn't show White House reporters in the most flattering light. "The Daily Show" host Jon Stewart's take: "Guys, you're already in the second row!"



This July 19, 2008, file photo, former NBA basketball player Dennis Rodman poses before the Ed Hardy swimwear runway show in Miami Beach, Fla.

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Cats and Dogs: Revenge of Kitty Galore

Synopsis
The epic struggle for control of planet Earth continues in this sequel to the 2001 comedy that had pet owners all across the world looking at their house pets in a whole new light. Chris O'Donnell and 30 Rock's Jack McBrayer head up the cast of the production, with scripting duties being handled by Brother Bear's Ron J. Friedman and Steve Bencich.

Friday and Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:45
Sun through Thurs 1:15 4:15 7:15

Alec Baldwin, Chris O'Donnell
Children's, Family • Rated PG

Charlie St. Cloud

Synopsis
Zac Efron reteams with 7 Again's Burr Steers for this adaptation of Ben Sherwood's novel regarding a caretaker of a cemetery who has daily discussions with his deceased brother. Kim Basinger heads up the supporting cast as the young men's mother.

Friday and Saturday 1:30 4:30 7:30 10:00
Sun through Thurs 1:30 4:30 7:30

Zac Efron, Kim Basinger
Drama • Rated PG 13

Dinner For Schmucks

Synopsis
Steve Carell, Paul Rudd, and Zach Galifianakis star in this remake of director Francis Veber's César award-winning 1998 comedy concerning a renowned publisher who encourages his friends to find the most pathetic guests possible for their weekly dinner party.

Friday and Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:40
Sun through Thurs 1:05 4:05 7:05

Steve Carell, Paul Rudd
Comedy • Rated PG 13

Salt

Ramona and Beezus

Sandra Oh, Bridget Moynahan
Children's family • Rated G

Friday and Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:55
Sun through Thurs 1:25 4:25 7:25

Angelina Jolie, Liev Schreiber
Thriller • Rated PG 13

The Sorcerer's Apprentice

Nicolas Cage, Jay Baruchel
Fantasy, Children's/family • Rated PG

Friday and Saturday 1:20 4:10 7:20 9:30
Sun through Thurs 1:20 4:10 7:20

Leonardo DiCaprio, Marion Cotillard
Action, Science fiction • Rated PG 13

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Singer Al Jarreau discharged from French hospital

MARSEILLE, France (AP)—A French cardiologist who's been treating Al Jarreau says the Grammy-award winning singer has been discharged from the hospital, more than a week after he was admitted.

The 70-year-old American singer was placed in intensive care on July 23 after suffering breathing problems in the Alps and was later moved by helicopter to La Timone hospital in Marseille. The incident

forced Jarreau to cancel several dates on his European concert tour.

Jean-Louis Bonnet, chief of the cardiology unit at La Timone hospital, said Sunday that Jarreau wants to continue with his tour.

"He wants to return to the stage and see his fans," Bonnet said, adding that he advised Jarreau not to push himself too hard.

Jarreau has won Grammys in jazz, pop and R&B categories.

Chelsea Clinton turns to Vera Wang for 2 gowns

NEW YORK (AP)—Chelsea Clinton needed two gowns by Vera Wang for her elaborate wedding to Marc Mezvinsky—one for the ceremony and one for the party.

The more formal dress worn by Clinton on Saturday at an exclusive estate in Rhinebeck, N.Y.,

had a strapless bodice, laser-cut organza ball skirt and a glittery embellished belt. For the reception, she changed into a Grecian-style gown with a narrow, black grosgrain belt.

Wang also dressed the bridesmaids. They wore strapless bias-

cut gowns made of lavender chiffon with plum-colored bows.

The designer was a guest at the event and said it was a "privilege" to dress Clinton. She said the bride "radiated joy, youth and happiness."

As mother of the bride, Sec-

retary of State Hilary Clinton tapped Oscar de la Renta—de-

signer of one of her inaugural gowns when her husband was president—to make her raspberry-colored embroidered gown.

The groom wore a custom wool-mohair mix tuxedo by Burberry.

Madonna in Paris to direct her new movie

PARIS (AP)—The Material Girl is illuminating the City of Light, where she's shooting her latest film, "W.E."

Dressed all in black and heavily accessorized in dark shades, a hat and a patterned scarf, Madonna directed Saturday's shoot in Paris' tony 6th district.

The 51-year-old singer made her directorial debut in 2008 with "Filth and Wisdom," about a Ukrainian

cross-dressing punk-rocker.

Madonna is not the only U.S. star to film in the French capital this summer.

Last week, Woody Allen was shooting his "Midnight in Paris" on location near the Pantheon and in a park behind Notre Dame cathedral. The film, starring Owen Wilson, also includes a performance by France's first lady, model-turned-singer Carla Bruni-Sarkozy.

Alicia Keys weds producer Swizz Beatz

NEW YORK (AP)—Call her Mrs. Beatz. Alicia Keys has married producer Swizz Beatz (Swiss Beats), with whom she is expecting her first child.

A representative for Keys on Sunday confirmed the wedding.

The Grammy winner and Beatz—whose real name is Kaseem (KAH-seem) Dean—an-

nounced in May that they were engaged. They were wed Saturday at a private ceremony. Deepak Chopra conducted the ceremony.

It is the 29-year-old singer's first marriage. Thirty-one-year-old Beatz has been married before and has two sons.

Their baby is due later this year.



AP
U.S. performer Madonna, during the filming of the movie "W.E.", which she is directing, in Paris, Saturday July 31, 2010.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Sandra Bullock wants out of Gulf restoration video

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—A spokeswoman for Sandra Bullock says the actress wants her parts of a video promoting Gulf Coast restoration removed until she learns whether oil companies influenced it. The statement Thursday came after the website DeSmogBlog called the campaign an industry push to get support for drilling and taxpayer money to repair wetland damage caused by the BP oil spill. Women of the Storm, a New Orleans group that produced the video, lists America's Wetland Foundation as a partner. The foundation lists BP and other oil companies as sponsors on its website. Anne Milling, founder of Women of the Storm, says the foundation provided experts and information. But she says the video was not funded by oil companies.

Christiane Amanpour takes on ABC News' 'This Week'

NEW YORK (AP)—Saying she's "eager to open a window on the world," ABC's Christiane Amanpour has joined the company of Sunday political talk hosts. Amanpour claimed her role at "This Week" on Sunday, replacing George Stephanopoulos on the show that competes with NBC's "Meet the Press," CBS' "Face the Nation" and "Fox News Sunday." She appeared comfortable and aggressively inquisitive in her new position. Guests on her first broadcast were Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and Secretary of Defense Robert Gates. Both interviews were pretaped—a double departure from the usual live nature of the Sunday shows. But mostly the hour format stuck closely to the past.

Jury questioning next in Anna Nicole Smith case

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A judge says questionnaires filled out by prospective jurors in the trial of Anna Nicole Smith's doctors and her lawyer-boyfriend show most of them know something about the model's life and death. But how much they know and what they think about the drug conspiracy charges will be probed in jury questioning in open court. The questioning begins Monday, with Superior Court Judge Robert Perry hoping to have a panel seated in two days. Dr. Sandeep Kapoor, Dr. Khristine Eroshevich and Howard K. Stern have pleaded not guilty to conspiring to illegally provide the former Playboy model with massive amounts of opiates and sedatives. They are not charged in her overdose death in 2007 in Florida. In a surprise twist, the prosecutor alleges Smith was a coconspirator in the actions that brought the three to trial.

Spike Lee screens film that includes oil spill

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Spike Lee screened some of his new HBO documentary that includes a look at the massive BP Gulf oil spill and says no one from the oil giant is speaking to him. The director showed about 90 minutes of "If God Is Willing and Da Creek Don't Rise" at the National Association of Black Journalists convention in San Diego on Saturday. The film is a follow-up to "When the Le-

vees Broke" about the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. It picks up with the New Orleans Saints' Super Bowl victory and chronicles the impact of the spill on people who have yet to fully recover from Katrina. When asked if BP cooperated he said, "Nobody was speaking to me from BP." A call to the BP press office wasn't immediately returned. He also called on President Barack Obama to "bring the hammer" on BP and make the company pay.

Stolen Portinari painting recovered in Brazil

SAO PAULO (AP)—Police have recovered a painting by one of Brazil's most famous painters two weeks after it was stolen from a museum. Authorities say Candido Portinari's "O Enterramento," or "The Burial," was found with a suspect in Rio de Janeiro on Saturday. It was taken from the Contemporary Art Museum in the northeastern city of Olinda earlier this month.

Police said in a statement they arrested a man who was in possession of the 1959 painting, which is worth about 1.5 million reals (\$850,000). The statement did not give details of the investigation, but Brazilian media reported that fingerprints at the crime scene helped police track down the suspect. It is one of seven Portinari artworks at the museum.

Performance on exams is true test of a student's education

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

I would like to comment on your May 29 reply to "Helping or Cheating?" the young lady who has been helping her boyfriend with his homework. I can see where someone might find this a problem.

I retired a few years ago after 35 years as an educator and still substitute teach three to five days a week. I feel I can speak for many teachers on this matter: For years, teachers have used a method called "peer tutoring" in and out of the classroom. From the information given, what that girl is doing sounds like textbook tutoring.

Personally, I feel it's far better to have help and see a word spelled correctly, a sentence constructed properly or a math problem worked correctly, than to have the mistake reinforced. In most cases, homework is just for practice, and "Rory" should have ample opportunity in class to show the teacher what he can do on his own.

35 YEARS AND COUNTING

DEAR COUNTING: Thank you for your input as an educator. I tried to reach the young woman who wrote that letter so I could ask if her boyfriend's test results had improved as a result of her efforts, but was unable to make contact.

Frankly, I was surprised at the amount of mail her letter generated from teachers, one of whom informed me that "most teachers don't check homework for accuracy, just that the homework was completed." Could this be part of what has gone wrong with our educational system—that teachers have become so overwhelmed by the size of their classes that they can no longer give their students the individual attention they need? If so, how sad for all of us. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I used to teach at the university level. For 20 years I watched this happen. Never once was it the boyfriend "helping" the girlfriend. If we got two essays on the same topic, it was always the girlfriend who had written it, while the boyfriend who "studied with her" or "used it as a model" ended up handing in a distorted version of the same paper—same quotes, same structure, reworded sentences. The boyfriends were slacking off; their girlfriends were doing the work.

I have talked about this with other professors; only one could cite a single exception to this rule. Thank you for telling that young woman to stop doing his homework and please, Abby, let your readers know the issue is systemic.

EX-PROF. IN IDAHO

DEAR ABBY: There is a very fine line between good tutoring, poor tutoring and cheating. The best indicator is how the young man does on his exams. If he has significantly improved on his ability to do the problems in a test situation, then I lean toward the idea that good tutoring was done and suggest the students continue the process. If there has been no improvement, he should go to the teacher for extra help.

Math is an extremely difficult subject for many people. However, when a student gets F's on his tests and after coming to me gets A's and B's from then on, I suspect some learning has occurred. The teacher should review the tests the boyfriend takes and either tell the sister to go fly a kite or change methods—depending on the scores.

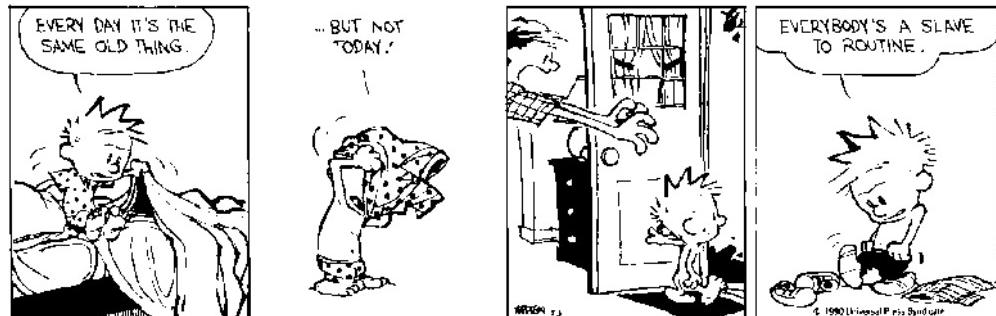
TUTOR IN RENO, NEV.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



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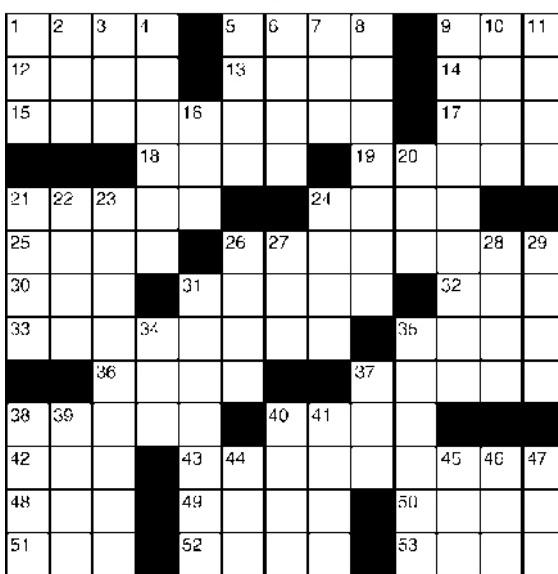


CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	35 Typeface	2 — carte	21 "Little Women"
1 Beer ingredient	36 Rind	3 Moon vehicle	22 Geometry calculation
5 Stage award	37 Quirks	4 Forbid-	23 Wine-vat workers
9 Edge	40 Tom	den acts	24 Writer Kingsley
12 Entreaty	42 Gorilla	5 Shrek,	26 Shoe part
13 Mentor	43 Wood	6 nymph e.g.	27 Spring mo.
14 Lawyers' o.g.	48 Neither partner	7 Rage	28 Hog call
15 Typical fast-food entree	49 Paradise	8 The Urals	29 Little lice
17 Performed	50 Mrs.	9 Geiger counter's divide it	31 King of horror
18 Tramcar loads	Dithers, in	10 Wading trigger	34 Witness
19 Get up	"Blondie"	52 Zilch	35 Savage
21 — Rouge, LA	53 TV trophy	11 Put	37 lease
24 On the b'ny	DOWN	16 Coffee together	38 Tarzan's mate
25 Flubs	1 Speed-	1 Speed-	39 "Once — a time, ..."
26 \$10 portrait	omometer	vessel	40 Portent
30 Afternoon social	20 Kin abbr.	(Abbr.)	41 Welles
31 Old photo coloration			44 Commotion
32 Roman trio			45 Kippur
33 Rodents often kept as pets			46 Branch
			47 Rotation duration

Yesterday's answer 8-3



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STUMPED?

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Evan- geline Lilly, 31; Tom Brady, 33; James Hetfield, 47; Martin Sheen, 70

Happy Birthday: You are heading in the right direction but you mustn't let emotional matters slow you down or confuse you. Look at the long term effects of whatever you pursue and you will not go wrong. An interest you had in the past will resurface upon visiting old friends, places and projects. There is much to be accomplished in a short time. Your numbers are 8, 11, 13, 26, 32, 38, 41

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't hold back when you have so much to contribute. A professional or personal relationship will depend on what you have to say. Be honest about the way you see things unfolding and how you feel about your future. ☀☀

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Communication will make a difference to the outcome of a situation you are faced with. You are sitting in a better position than you realize, so share your opinions. Love is on the rise, so plan a fun-filled evening. ☀☀

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Before stepping into a position that may damage a relationship that you care about, get the approval you need to move forward without worry. Discussing your plans will help you avoid balancing too many responsibilities. ☀☀

CANCER (June 21-July 22): It's up to you to run the show. Love is in a high cycle and making a vow to take care of personal responsibilities will give you the leeway you need to bring about a positive financial change. ☀☀

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You can offer suggestions but don't take on someone else's burdens. Focus on what needs to be done at home in order to add to your assets and bring about favorable alterations to your personal life. ☀☀

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Changes at home will help your financial situation, allowing you the freedom to

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take on whatever responsibilities are required of you and do your best. Refrain from letting others change your game plan or affect your productivity. The less fuss you make, the further ahead you will be. ☀☀

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Be proud of what you have to offer and let everyone see what you doing and planning for the future. It's having an overall handle on the possibilities that will make you a good leader. Step up and do what you do best. ☀☀☀☀

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't let the little upsets or setbacks cause you to dwell on the negative. Take a firm but understanding approach. Showing leadership ability will speak volumes about what you can do. ☀☀

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Share your thoughts with someone you are close to and you will have an ally in your corner. Change is apparent and dealing with new organizations or getting involved with a group geared to promotion and networking will help you present what you have to offer. ☀☀

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Before stepping into a position that may damage a relationship that you care about, get the approval you need to move forward without worry. Discussing your plans will help you avoid balancing too many responsibilities. ☀☀

CANCER (June 21-July 22): It's up to you to run the show. Love is in a high cycle and making a vow to take care of personal responsibilities will give you the leeway you need to bring about a positive financial change. ☀☀

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Changes at home will help your financial situation, allowing you the freedom to

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD
IN ASTROLOGY



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get more for your money. Don't let what others do influence you or your decisions. Uncertainty must not cause you to drop your personal responsibilities. ☀☀☀☀

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Make sure you do everything in your power to make your point clear. Do not give in to someone who speaks louder or uses manipulative means. Taking responsibility and avoiding temptation will set you apart from the crowd. ☀☀

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Take a closer look at something you have worked on in the past and you will find a new way to present it. Partnering with someone with talent will help you attract groups, organizations or individuals to fill in any part of your plan that is lacking. ☀☀

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

3	8							
7	4			5			6	
2	1				3			
5	1			3				
9		8			2			
7		7			4		1	
6				2	9			
9		1			3	8		
7				7		5		

Difficulty Level ★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

1	9	7	8	2	5	4	3	6
8	4	2	3	9	6	7	1	5
3	5	6	4	1	7	9	2	8
9	1	8	6	7	3	2	5	4
6	2	3	9	5	4	1	8	7
4	7	5	2	8	1	6	9	3
7	3	1	5	6	2	8	4	9
2	8	4	7	3	9	5	6	1
5	6	9	1	4	8	3	7	2

Difficulty Level ★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

OOPS, I FORGOT!

L	I	S	T	P	R	E	P	A	R	A	T
A	D	D	R	E	S	S	E	S	A	L	G
N	A	M	E	K	C	O	L	I	G	H	I
W	O	H	S	N	O	I	T	C	E	R	D
A	R	R	I	A	T	P	R	O	M	I	S
T	M	E	O	P	I	P	A	Y	T	D	E
C	I	M	Z	A	F	F	P	E	M	S	I
H	I	I	S	A	G	O	I	F	U	N	F
Y	K	T	R	S	P	R	E	I	C	A	C
T	R	O	T	U	M	C	N	O	A	S	M
O	P	R	U	E	I	D	L	T	T	R	E
W	S	L	R	T	O	T	P	T	N	M	I
R	F	A	P	I	I	S	F	F	A	F	O
M	E	M	O	R	I	E	S	V	I	H	S
S	D</										

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28 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2009

Tribune
The FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

TUESDAY DECEMBER 15, 2009

Fitial eyes Cepeda's re-appointment to NMC board. PAGE DPH to ask for extension of emergency declaration. PAGE

\$1.35M earmarks for NMI now up for Obama's

By HADEE V. EUGENIO
hadee_eugenio@tribune.com
The fate of the \$1.35 million in CNMI special projects funding requested by Del-

10 DAYS to go
before Chris

OPINION
This week's policy term: employee

FORUM

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- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Rays' Shields shuts down A-Rod and Yankees



ST. PETERSBURG

Florida (AP)—James Shields worked into the eighth inning to outpitch CC Sabathia, prolong Alex Rodriguez's quest for his 600th homer and help Tampa Bay beat the New York Yankees 3-0 on Sunday.

Carl Crawford and Kelly Shoppach drove in runs for the Rays, who took two of three games during a matchup between the teams with the top two records in baseball.

The Yankees intended for Rodriguez to take a day off. But with Shields (10-9) sailing along with a three-run lead in the seventh, manager Joe Girardi inserted the slugger as a pinch-hitter with a runner on and two outs.

Rodriguez took a third called strike. He remained in the game at third base, but didn't get to the plate again.

Shields walked one and struck out 11 while limiting the World Series champions to four hits over 7 1-3 innings.

Rays reliever Chad Qualls, acquired Saturday from Arizona, got Lance Berkman to hit into a double play to end the eighth. Rafael Soriano pitched the ninth, finishing the five-hitter for his 30th save in 32 opportunities.

Sabathia (13-5) allowed three runs and eight hits in 6 2-3 innings, losing his second consecutive start after winning nine straight decisions.

Tampa Bay won for the eighth time in nine games, trimming New York's lead in the AL East to one game.

Rodriguez' next chance at the milestone comes Monday night at home against Toronto.

Angels 4, Rangers 1

At Anaheim, Jered Weaver out-pitched Cliff Lee with seven sharp innings in a matchup of the AL's strikeout and ERA leaders as Los Angeles beat Texas to win two of three in their weekend series.

The Rangers' lead in the AL West was shaved to eight games by the three-time defending division champions, who avoided falling at least 10 games out of first place for the first time since the end of the 2003 season.

Weaver (10-7) allowed an unearned run on four hits and struck out seven to increase his league-best total to 162. The right-hander, making his fourth start against the Rangers this season, was coming off a pair of hard-luck losses—one of which came at Texas when Lee beat him 3-2.

Fernando Rodney pitched a perfect eighth and Brian Fuentes got three outs for his 20th save in 24 attempts.

Lee (9-4) went the distance for the seventh time this season, allowing nine hits over eight innings. The 2008 AL Cy Young Award winner, who has pitched at least eight innings in each of his last nine starts, is 1-2 with a 2.91 ERA in five outings with

the Rangers after joining them in a trade from Seattle on July 9. Overall, his ERA is a league-best 2.51.

Twins 4, Mariners 0

At Minneapolis, Francisco Liriano matched a season high with 11 strikeouts and Jason Kubel ended a slump with a three-run double as the Minnesota Twins beat Seattle 4-0 for the second consecutive day.

Playing without sluggers Joe Mauer and Justin Morneau, the Twins won their eighth straight and completed a three-game sweep. They remained a half-game behind first-place Chicago in the AL Central.

The Mariners lost their seventh in a row.

Liriano (10-7) went seven innings to extend his shutout streak to 21. He has allowed only two runs in his last 28 2-3 innings.

Luke French (0-2) held Minnesota scoreless through five innings before getting into trouble in the sixth.

Red Sox 4, Tigers 3

At Boston, pinch-runner Darnell McDonald scored the winning run when Marco Scutaro's bunt single was thrown away by pitcher Robbie Weinhardt as the Red Sox won in their last at-bat for the second straight game.

After Clay Buchholz out-pitched Tigers ace Justin Verlander in a matchup of All-Stars, Jonathan Papelbon (4-4) got the win despite giving up Miguel Cabrera's two-run double and a game-tying single by Jhonny Peralta in the ninth.

Brad Thomas (4-1) took the loss after allowing Jed Lowrie's leadoff single in the ninth and walking Eric Patterson.

White Sox 4, Athletics 1

At Chicago, Brent Lillibridge hit a three-run triple for the White Sox, who have won six of seven. They improved to 20 wins and two losses in their last 22 games at U.S. Cellular Field.

Gavin Floyd (7-8) allowed one run and four hits in seven-plus innings, improving to 5-2 with a 1.06 ERA in his last 11 starts. The right-hander hasn't allowed more than two earned runs in a game since a loss to Texas on June 2.

Floyd walked Cliff Pennington with none out in the sixth, then gave up a one-out single to Matt Carson. Bobby Jenks struck out two in a perfect ninth for his 22nd save in 24 opportunities.

Oakland starter Gio Gonzalez (9-7), selected by the White Sox in the first round of the 2004 draft, pitched eight innings for his first career complete game. He had a career-high 11 strikeouts without a walk, and yielded six hits.

Indians 5, Blue Jays 4

At Toronto, Asdrubal Cabrera hit a two-run homer and Jason Donald added a solo shot as Cleveland beat Toronto for the sixth time in seven games.

Jose Bautista hit his major league-leading 32nd home run for the Blue Jays. Aaron Hill and Yunel Escobar also had solo



Tampa Bay Rays starter James Shields pitches against the New York Yankees during the third inning of a baseball game Sunday, Aug. 1, 2010, in St. Petersburg, Fla.

shots for Toronto, which leads the majors with 161 homers. The Blue Jays have gone deep in 13 consecutive games, hitting 31 during that span.

Royals 5, Orioles 4

At Kansas City, Alex Gordon homered and Bruce Chen won for the first time since July 3 to lead Kansas City past Baltimore.

Chen (6-5), who was 0-3 in his previous four starts, went five innings. He allowed three runs and seven hits.

Royals reliever Kanekoa Texeira worked out of a bases-loaded, none-out jam in the sixth, allowing only one run to score on a double-play grounder.

Reds 2, Braves 1

At Cincinnati, Brandon Phillips hit a tying triple with two out in the fifth inning and scored the tiebreaking run on shortstop Alex Gonzalez's error, helping the Cincinnati Reds beat the Atlanta Braves.

Ramon Hernandez was on first when Phillips lifted a fly ball down the right-field line that eluded a diving Jason Heyward and bounced into the corner. Orlando Cabrera followed with a routine grounder to Gonzalez, but the former Reds infielder dropped the ball, and Phillips scored while Cabrera easily beat the throw to first.

The NL East-leading Braves have lost three of four. They wasted a solid outing by Tommy Hanson (8-8), who allowed an earned run and five hits in 7 1-3 innings.

Edinson Volquez (2-1) pitched five innings for the Reds and Francisco Cordero got three outs for his 29th save.

Phillies 6, Nationals 4, 11 innings

At Washington, Placido Polanco and Jayson Werth each drove in a run in the 11th inning, helping Philadelphia avoid the sweep.

Wilson Valdez led off the 11th with a bunt single against Collin Balester (0-1) and was sacrificed to second by pinch-hitter Roy Oswalt, the ace pitcher acquired Thursday in a trade with Houston. Valdez went to third on a fly ball by Jimmy Rollins and scored on Polanco's third hit, a single to center.

Werth followed with an RBI double.

The Phillies lost the first two games of the series to the last-place Nationals but managed to avoid their first sweep against Washington.

Padres 5, Marlins 4

At San Diego, Jerry Hairston Jr. hit a two-run double with two outs in the sixth inning to chase Florida ace Josh Johnson as the Padres

avoided a three-game sweep.

San Diego right-hander Jon Garland (10-7) outpitched Johnson (10-4), allowing three runs and five hits in six innings.

Johnson gave up seven hits and a season-high five runs in 5 2-3 innings. His major league-leading ERA rose from 1.72 to 1.96.

Cardinals 9, Pirates 1

At St. Louis, Albert Pujols hit a two-run homer and Adam Wainwright stayed unbeaten at home with seven strong innings for the Cardinals.

Pujols' 25th homer capped a five-run fifth inning.

Wainwright (15-6) allowed one earned run and six hits, bouncing back strong from one of his worst outings of the season. He improved to 11-0 at Busch Stadium with a 1.22 ERA, both major league bests.

Wainwright also hit a tie-breaking RBI single off Zach Duke in the fifth.

Matt Holliday also homered for St. Louis, which outscored Pittsburgh 21-2 in sweeping the three-game series.

Diamondbacks 14, Mets 1

At New York, Adam LaRoche hit a pair of three-run homers and Daniel Hudson made a memorable debut for Arizona.

Stephen Drew and John Hester

added back-to-back homers as the Diamondbacks wrapped up a dominating season series against New York. They took five of six, rebounding from the lone loss to prevent the Mets from winning consecutive games for the first time since early June.

Hudson (1-0) allowed one run and three hits in eight innings in his sixth career start. It was his first game since he was acquired from the White Sox last week in the deal that sent Edwin Jackson to Chicago.

LaRoche had his sixth career multihomer game, both shots coming off Jon Niese (7-5). LaRoche also set a career high with six RBIs.

Rockies 8, Cubs 7

At Denver, Jorge De La Rosa pitched into the seventh inning to earn his first win in three months as Colorado earned its fourth consecutive victory.

Chicago scored three times in the ninth against Huston Street but Jeff Baker struck out to end the game. Rockies center fielder Dexter Fowler was carted off the field with bruised ribs and a bruised left hip after crashing into the wall while catching Alfonso Soriano's sacrifice fly.

De La Rosa (4-3) allowed three runs and eight hits in 6 2-3 innings to pick up his first win since April 25 against Florida. He also went 2 for 2 at the plate.

Astros 5, Brewers 2

At Houston, pinch-hitter Jason Michaels connected for a grand slam in the seventh inning as Houston completed the three-game sweep.

The Astros trailed 2-0 before Michaels' drive to the first row of the Crawford Boxes in left field.

Houston has won five straight games while Milwaukee has dropped its last five.

Brewers starter Randy Wolf was cruising before he was hit on his left wrist by Hunter Pence's single with none out in the seventh, forcing the left-hander out of the game. He was replaced by Kameron Loe (1-2), who walked Carlos Lee and Chris Johnson to load the bases before Zach Bradock took over.

That set up Michaels' second career pinch-hit grand slam.

Giants 2, Dodgers 0

At San Francisco, Matt Cain pitched four-hit ball into the eighth inning, earning his first career win against the Dodgers as the Giants completed a three-game sweep.

Edgar Renteria hit a two-run triple in the sixth for San Francisco, which moved to 8-2 in its last 10 games.

Cain (9-8) allowed four hits in 7 2-3 innings, improving to 3-0 with a 1.52 ERA in his last four starts. The right-hander also raised his career record against San Francisco's longtime rival to 1-8 with a 3.94 ERA in 15 games.

Newly acquired Javier Lopez got the last out of the eighth and Brian Wilson finished the four-hitter for his 31st save.

Jets CB Darrelle Revis holding out from camp

CORTLAND, N.Y. (AP)—The New York Jets reported for training camp with high hopes—and without perhaps their best player.

All-Pro cornerback Darrelle Revis is holding out while locked in a contract dispute with the team. And there's no telling how long he might stay away.

"Darrelle and his family were extremely deliberate with the decision-making process," agent Neil Schwartz told the Associated Press on Sunday. "Obviously his actions speak far louder than words."

Revis didn't show for the team's conditioning test Sunday morning at the Jets' training facility in Florham Park, N.J. He officially became a holdout when he missed the team's first meeting at 5:30 p.m. in Cortland.

Not good news for a team with its sights set on a Super Bowl.

"The lines of communication are open and we remain committed to finding a solution that makes sense for him and makes sense for us," general manager Mike Tannenbaum said. "The two things that we've all agreed upon is that Darrelle has outplayed his contract and it needed to be addressed, and he has three years to go on his contract."

Revis is to make \$1 million in the fourth year of his six-year rookie deal, making him one of the lowest-paid defensive backs on the team this season. He wants to be the league's highest-paid cornerback, a distinction that belongs to Nnamdi Asomugha, who signed a three-year, \$45.3 million extension last offseason.

Tannenbaum, saying he's "an eternal optimist," added that the main disagreement between the sides is in total compensation.

"That is the threshold issue we have," he said.

Schwartz and agent Jon Feinsod said both sides worked until the last minute to get something done. Tannenbaum said the team made three offers in the last 72 hours: a long-term deal that would keep him with the Jets for life, a short-term deal and a face-to-face meeting—and all were denied.

By holding out, Revis will be fined \$16,523 for each day he's not with the team and waived a clause in his contract which would have guaranteed him \$20 million over the last two years of his deal.

"He's a great player, the best corner I've ever been around," coach Rex Ryan said. "So, certainly, I'm disappointed. I

really thought, in my heart, he would be signed by now and we wouldn't be having these conversations."

Revis said in May that both Tannenbaum and Ryan told him they believe he should be the league's highest-paid cornerback. After all, he was coming off a season in which he routinely handled opponents' top receivers and finished second in Defensive Player of the Year voting. Revis also said the Jets promised him his contract situation would be taken care of by training camp.

He sat out a few plays in minicamp, saying he was lightheaded at the time but the negotiations also played a role in him sitting.

In his absence, first-round pick Kyle Wilson—who signed a five-year, \$13 million deal late Saturday night—will get time with the first-team defense along with Antonio Cromartie and Dwight Lowery.

"He's a great player and a player of that magnitude, he will be missed," defensive tackle Kris Jenkins said. "But, we have some great guys backing him up and they're going to do what they have to do."

All-Pro center Nick Mangold is also looking for a contract extension, but unlike Revis, showed up on time for camp.

"We decided it would be best for me to be in camp," he said. "That's the decision we made, and we're moving forward."

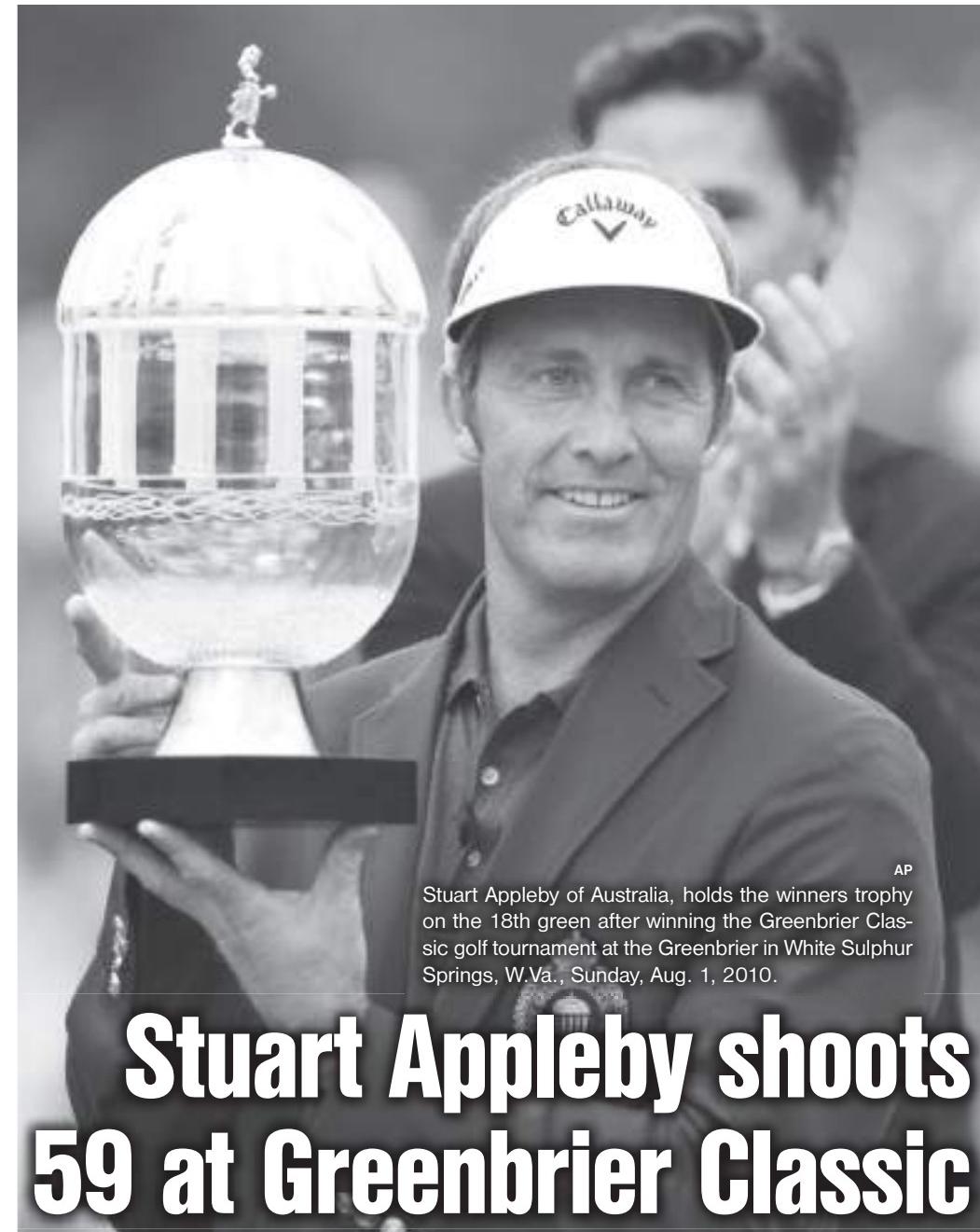
He's making \$3.3 million entering the final year of his rookie deal. Mangold said he wasn't bothered to hear that both Ryan and Tannenbaum were recently given contract extensions while he waits for his.

"They're working down the totem pole and they'll get to me in a couple of years, I guess," Mangold said with a laugh. "You don't try to read too much into it because then you become paranoid."

Also Sunday, the Jets' fourth-round draft pick, running back Joe McKnight, passed a conditioning test that he initially failed.

Wide receiver Santonio Holmes was given a later mandatory report date of Wednesday so he can attend to a family matter. Holmes wrote on this Twitter page a few days ago that his son was in the hospital, but it was uncertain if that was the reason for the delay.

Meanwhile, Jenkins (hamstring) and backup quarterback Kellen Clemens (calf) were placed on the active-physically unable to perform list. Both downplayed the injuries and said they would be OK.



AP
Stuart Appleby of Australia, holds the winners trophy on the 18th green after winning the Greenbrier Classic golf tournament at the Greenbrier in White Sulphur Springs, W.Va., Sunday, Aug. 1, 2010.

Stuart Appleby shoots 59 at Greenbrier Classic

The **Greenbrier CLASSIC**

W H I T E
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(AP)—Stuart Appleby felt opportunity, not nerves, as he started running out of real estate in the chase for golf's magic number 59.

The Australian birdied the final three holes with putts of 15 feet or less Sunday to become the fifth PGA Tour player to reach the low-round record and win the Greenbrier Classic by a shot.

He also broke a four-year winless drought, when third-round leader Jeff Overton narrowly missed a long birdie try on the par-3 18th that would have forced a playoff.

"I was quite comfortable,"

Also Sunday, the Jets' fourth-round draft pick, running back Joe McKnight, passed a conditioning test that he initially failed.

Wide receiver Santonio Holmes was given a later mandatory report date of Wednesday so he can attend to a family matter. Holmes wrote on this Twitter page a few days ago that his son was in the hospital, but it was uncertain if that was the reason for the delay.

"She studied the scriptures and history and she believes she is a Hebrew," he told The Associated Press on Friday in Jerusalem. "I grew up in a very spiritual home. It's not about religion, it's about spirituality for me."

Appleby said. "It's not a nerve-racking thing to be involved in. I had a lot of opportunities and I made them. It was great to do that to win the tournament."

Appleby's 11-under round on the Old White course put him at 22 under. Overton, playing three groups behind Appleby, shot 67 to finish at 21 under.

"I did the math. I was chasing Jeff, who was heading toward the finish line," Appleby said. "At the same time I was playing well and I thought if I could keep making birdies ... I knew I was going to run out of holes. There was plenty of (birdie chances) coming in."

Appleby's round came less than a month after Paul Goydos shot a 59 at the John Deere Classic.

Stoudemire said he was "soaking up the culture," with his girlfriend and a few other friends from home.

He has long suspected his Jewish lineage—Judaism is passed down through the mother's side. Stoudemire's agent, Happy Walters, said his client is a "student of history" and is "exploring religions in general."

He added that Stoudemire may turn to a genealogist when he returns to New York to dig deeper.

The 6-foot-10 forward signed a five-year, \$100 million contract with the Knicks three weeks ago. He will now be playing in the city with the largest Jewish population in the United States.

The NBA features two Jewish players: Israeli Omri Casspi of

The others to shoot 59 were Al Geiberger at the 1977 Memphis Classic, Chip Beck at the 1991 Las Vegas Invitational and David Duval at the 1999 Bob Hope Classic.

Appleby had nine birdies and an eagle in his round to earn the \$1.08 million winner's check.

He saw playing partner D.A. Points flirt with a 59 on Saturday before settling for a 61.

On Sunday, it was Appleby's turn.

"It was nice to be on the receiving end," Appleby said.

Appleby won for the first time since the 2006 Houston Open. His previous career low was 62 in the 2003 Las Vegas Invitational.

Appleby's achievement was the first 59 on a par-70 course.

Knicks' Stoudemire in Israel to trace Hebrew roots

the Sacramento Kings and Jordan Farmar of the New Jersey Nets. When Farmar joined the Los Angeles Lakers in 2006, he became the NBA's first Jewish player since Danny Schayes—son of Hall of Famer Dolph Schayes—retired in 1999.

Stoudemire said he's spoken to Casspi a few times about Judaism, "but we didn't go into details about it."

Stoudemire has begun studying Hebrew and his Twitter page features such words as "Shalom," "Le'chayim" and "ze ha'halom shel," Hebrew for "this is my dream."

"It's great," he said. "Hebrew is the original language."

On Twitter, he also called himself "the new Reggie White," saying "I'm going to

Goydos' came on a par 71 and the others on par 72s. Appleby understands there might be some debate as to whether his achievement is right up there with the others.

"I agree," he said. "I can see both sides of the fence. It is a number. I shot that number. But who says par is supposed to be 72? There's a lot of great courses that aren't 72."

Appleby didn't have the advantage of lift, clean and place that Goydos and Geiberger enjoyed, even though overnight rains left mud on some balls.

Appleby trailed Overton by seven strokes to start his round, shot 6-under 28 on the front nine and eagled the par-5 12th before settling for three straight pars.

He got his momentum going again just in time with birdies of 15, 10 and 11 feet on the final three holes.

Standing over his putt on 18, "I knew what it was all about," Appleby said. "I knew I had to make it - I knew I had to make it for the tournament, I knew I had to make it to have a 59. I'm sitting there going 'How many opportunities are you going to get to do this?'

"The cards had been laying out perfectly for me all day. Why wasn't I going to do one more? I just got a good look at it and just—bang—it felt good."

Appleby's feat topped the course record of 60 set by Sam Snead in 1950 and matched Saturday by J.B. Holmes.

The 39-year-old Appleby has played 11 straight weeks and will do it again starting Thursday at the Bridgestone Invitational in Akron, Ohio.

Overton had 34 putts in the final round, three-putting three times.

"I got beat by a 59," said Overton, who had his third runner-up finish of the year and remains winless in five years on the Tour. "What can you say? I played great, hit a lot of great shots. You can't win golf tournaments when you putt it that bad."

Brendon de Jonge (65) finished third at 17 under. Tied at 15 under were Points (70), Woody Austin (63), Paul Stankowski (64), Roger Tambellini (65) and Jimmy Walker (67).

Israel 2 study Hebrew. It's time 2 get a better understanding on who we R."

White, the late NFL star and ordained minister, traveled to Israel late in his life and studied Hebrew to learn scripture in its original form.

Stoudemire spent his first eight NBA seasons with the Phoenix Suns, where he won the 2003 Rookie of Year award and became one of the league's dominant players. Now, his possible Jewish ties have stirred interest in Israel, with bloggers dreaming he could one day join the Israeli national team.

Stoudemire, however, laughed that off.

"I'm looking forward to playing in the 2012 Olympics," he said. "For the USA."

GOLD

From Page 28

Arriola played the first singles match against Guam's No. 2 player Terea Tapu. The CNMI bet won the first set, 6-4, and was leading 3-2, in the second set when rain halted the match. The first singles game resumed after lunch and Arriola picked up where she left off, pulling off a 7-6 (4) win in the second set.

The CNMI then needed to win only the second singles game to clinch the gold medal and Aikawa did just that. Aikawa eked out a 7-6 (2) triumph in the opening set and then cruised to a 6-2 victory in the second to hand the Commonwealth its first gold medal in this year's Micro Games.

Tennis gave the CNMI its first medal—the very first handed out in the Games—as the medal-rich swimming competition had its finals in the evening, while athletics, which also has a lot of medal to be given, will just start its competition today.

The silver medalist Guam prevented a CNMI sweep in the finals after Alea Dugan and Tapu defeated Jodel Fernandez and Lydia Tan in the doubles event, 6-2, 6-2. Pohnpei took the bronze medal after beating host Palau.

In the men's team event, the CNMI advanced to the finals after shutting out Kosrae in the semifinals. Bobby Cruz won the first singles match against Kim Thomson, 6-0, 6-1, while Todd Montgomery notched a 6-4, 6-2 victory in his rain-delayed game against Arkelus

Eshau. Cruz played his second game of the day, teaming up with Peter Loyola and they gave the CNMI a 3-0 win in the team event after topping Thomson and Eshau, 6-2, 6-4.

The CNMI will be facing Guam for the gold medal in the men's team event. Guam also swept its semifinal assignment against Pohnpei. Wendell Roden crushed Don Neth Jr., 6-2, 6-0, while Justin Dugan defeated Rene Marancilla, 6-0, 6-0. Pohnpei had a no-show in the doubles match awarding Guam a win via forfeit.

More medals to come

The CNMI was expected to win more medals in Day 1, as the Commonwealth swimmers made it to the finals of most of the races scheduled in Day 1 of the swimming competition.

Rezne Wong and Kai Staal made it to the finals of three events each with the former topping the qualifying swims in the 200m individual medley, 100m butterfly, and 200m breaststroke. Staal was first and qualified in the finals in the 100m backstroke and 200m freestyle and finished second in the 200m breaststroke.

Also making it to the finals of more than one event were brothers Shin and Kensuke Kimura and Grace Kimball.

In baseball, the CNMI had a rousing debut after whipping Pohnpei, 12-1.

The Commonwealth's sluggers took only five innings to down Pohnpei and win one of their two games in yesterday's baseball competition. The CNMI was set to face Kosrae in the evening match yesterday and will then duel

Guam today. The CNMI beat Guam in the finals of the 2006 Micronesian Games, 3-2, and an early rematch with its rival will be a tough test for team manager Tony Rogolifo's wards.

In basketball, the CNMI Men's Nationals bowed to Kosrae, 67-71 and will try to bounce back when they face host Palau tonight at 7pm. The CNMI cage belles also debuted in the basketball competition yesterday, but results of their duel against Palau were unavailable at press time. The CNMI-Palau tiff in women's basketball was scheduled at 5pm.

Table tennis, athletics begin today

Three days after arriving here, the four-man CNMI Table Tennis Team will finally see action in this year's Games.

Steve Lim, Budhi Gurung, Lu Jun, and Su Yong Dong will be competing in the round-robin team event and will start their bid for the singles event tomorrow. Table tennis games will be played at the Ngarachamayong Cultural Center here and will run until Aug. 5.

The athletics competition will take place at the Palau National Track and Field with the 10,000m races both in the men's and women's division kicking off the three-day event.

Mamiko Oshima-Berger, Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel, and Ronald Villafria are the CNMI's bets in today's long distance races, which will start at 7am.

Twelve other events (finals) and five qualifying heats are scheduled in Day 1 of the athletics competition and these will start at 5pm.

time in the two events. He finished first overall and first on Heat 1 of the men's 100m butterfly and 200m breaststroke.

In the women's 200m IM, the CNMI had only one entry in Grace Kimball, who also made it to the finals. Kimball had her second event for the day, competing and qualifying in the women's 100m backstroke. In her third event—the 200m freestyle, Kimball also advanced to the finals.

In the men's 100m backstroke, Kai Staal finished first in the preliminary swim, while Kensuke Kimura was second, moving the two CNMI swimmers to the finals.

Staal also topped the qualifying race in the 200m freestyle, while Shin Kimura finished second.

The 16-year-old Staal then gained his third finals in Day 1 after a second-place swim in the qualifier for the men's 200m breaststroke.

CNMI men's coach Hiro Kimura was confident that his wards will get the most gold medals in Day 1.

"They had a great swim today. Even though they had to make a lot of turns in the 25-meter pool and they got a bit dizzy, they remained focus and swam well," Hiro Kimura said.

Besides the 10 individual races, the CNMI was also scheduled to compete in two relay events yesterday.

Kensuke was assigned to do the backstroke, Staal in breaststroke, Wong in butterfly, and Shin in the freestyle of the 200m medley relay. The four CNMI swimmers were also slated to compete in the 800m freestyle swim yesterday.

The women's team, composed of Kimball, Victoria Chentsova, Tamiko Winkfield, and Keanna Villagomez, was also scheduled to race in two relay events in Day 1.

and CNMI tried to push the ball up. However at the last minute, Winkfield, who kissed the floor more than five times, decided to put on the breaks and made a drop pass to Joe Villacrusis. Villacrusis pulled up for a short jumper from the left wing and his shot bounced off.

After Villacrusis' crucial miss, neither team had clear possession and timed expired.

Hawley paced Pohnpei with 19 points, including back-to-back triples that gave his team cushion in the fourth quarter.

Jericho Cruz paced the CNMI with 26 points.

Pohnpei 71 – Hawaley 19, Yain-gelvo 14, Roby 12, Sam 10, Maui 4, Lucios 3, Yamada 2, Shaniber 1.

CNMI 67 – Cruz 26, Barcenas 15, Winkfield 12, Iguel 6, Lizama 4, Quan 3.

Scoring by quarters: 18-11, 29-34, 53-44, 71-67.

Pohnpei lost the ball on the other end

SWIMMERS

From Page 28

races, giving them automatic berths to the finals of the 200m individual medley event. The lower-ranked finishers need to race again to make it to the medal swims.

The finals of the 10 races scheduled in Day 1 were also set for yesterday, but events started at 5pm (6pm Saipan time) thus results were unavailable at press time.

Wong and Kimura were on Heat 2 of the men's 200m preliminary swim with the former finishing first and Kensuke second. The two CNMI bets beat Palau's Liam Bornovski and the Marshall Islands' Shawn Brady in their heat.

Wong joined two other races yesterday and posted the best qualifying

time in the two events. He finished first overall and first on Heat 1 of the men's 100m butterfly and 200m breaststroke.

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place swim in the qualifier for the men's 200m breaststroke.

inside defense. Pohnpei had three mobile big men rotating the paint. Pohnpei's frontliners also did a good job in the rebound department, preventing CNMI from scoring on second chance points.

CNMI forward Jack Lizama, who was expected to help his teammates in the paint, was slowed down by fouls and left the game in the last three minutes of the third period due to five fouls.

When Pohnpei took the lead, 37-36, off William Hawley's daredevil drive, the CNMI was forced to play catch-up. It did not help the Commonwealth cagers that Pohnpei got the breaks on those wild and wacky plays, as the latter escaped with a couple of uncontested layups.

Pohnpei led by as much as 11 points, 71-60, going into the last three minutes of the game before Jericho Cruz, Dan Barcenas, and Jeremy Winkfield made a rally and moved the team within four, 71-67, with less than 30 seconds left on the clock.

Pohnpei lost the ball on the other end

POHNPEI

From Page 28

the third match scheduled in the opening day and what should be a basketball competition looked like a tumbling show, as players from both camps slipped, fell, and rolled to the newly painted wooden floor.

At one point in the third period, possessions switched four times, as CNMI cagers picked the ball, slipped, and lost the leather and then Pohnpei took it momentarily before dropping the possession, too. The erratic moments lasted for a few moments, drawing loud cheers from the crowd.

The CNMI was behind in the first quarter, 11-18, before grabbing the upper hand at the break, 34-29.

But at the start of the second half, the CNMI Men's Nationals could not get their outside game going and it was also hard for the team to penetrate Pohnpei's

frontliners also did a good job in the rebound department, preventing CNMI from scoring on second chance points.

After Villacrusis' crucial miss, neither team had clear possession and timed expired.

Hawley paced Pohnpei with 19 points, including back-to-back triples that gave his team cushion in the fourth quarter.

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Scoring by quarters: 18-11, 29-34, 53-44, 71-67.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES**MLB STANDINGS****AMERICAN LEAGUE****East Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	66	38	.635	—
Tampa Bay	65	39	.625	1
Boston	60	45	.571	6 1/2
Toronto	54	51	.514	12 1/2
Baltimore	32	73	.305	34 1/2

Central Division

Chicago	59	45	.567	—
Minnesota	59	46	.562	1/2
Detroit	52	52	.500	7
Kansas City	45	60	.429	14 1/2
Cleveland	44	61	.419	15 1/2

West Division

Texas	61	44	.581	—
Los Angeles	54	53	.505	8
Oakland	52	52	.500	8 1/2
Seattle	39	67	.368	22 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE**East Division**

Atlanta	59	45	.567	—
Philadelphia	57	48	.543	2 1/2
Florida	53	52	.505	6 1/2
New York	53	52	.505	6 1/2
Washington	46	59	.438	13 1/2

Central Division

St. Louis	59	46	.562	—
Cincinnati	59	47	.557	1/2
Milwaukee	48	58	.453	11 1/2
Chicago	46	59	.438	13
Houston</				

CNMI loses to Chinese-Taipei in EAFF U15 tourney

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

 The U15 CNMI National Soccer Team was shut out by powerhouse Chinese-Taipei, 0-14, in the opening day of the EAFF U15 Football Festival last Sunday at the Leo Palace Resort Field in Yona, Guam.

Chinese-Taipei scored their first goal 1:40 into the game. The next goal was scored at 5:10 into the match.

The CNMI then held their ground for about 21 minutes, but could not fend off the constant attack from Chinese-Taipei. At the half, the score was 7-0 in favor of Chinese-Taipei.

Chinese-Taipei again scored in less than two minutes into the second half. With the CNMI boys fatigued, Chinese-Taipei scored six more goals the rest of the match to even their first half effort.

After the game, the CNMI team held a meeting and went over some adjustments to help them clean up their game. Their next opponent North Korea, however, is another very good team with some height.

In any case, Northern Mariana Islands Football Association general secretary Ed Salas is hopeful that first day jitters will be gone and the Commonwealth boys will show up in the next match with more intensity.

The CNMI U15 squad is composed of Josiah Orlando, Abraham Tosiwo, Colin Curtis Fruit, Kennedy Izuka, John Raymond Taisacan, Andrew Scott Johnson, Dakota Hall, Jireh Yobech, Michael Barry, Stacy Escueta, Jahn Joyner, Jamal Cabrera, Sean Perez, Hunter Jewell, Kenneth Domingo, Enrico Del Rosario, Joel Pierce Fruit, and Julian Pellegrino.

According to Salas, CNMI players noticed right away that their opponents



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The CNMI's Enrico Del Rosario (16) defends against a Chinese-Taipei dribbler as Jamal Cabrera (12) looks on during their match last Sunday in the EAFF U15 Football Festival at the Leo Palace Resort Field.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
CNMI team captain Michael "Bo" Barry elevates to head the ball away from the goal following a Chinese-Taipei corner kick.

were a strong team just by merely looking at their physique. The Chinese-Taipei squad, he said, all appeared to be 15 years old in contrast to the CNMI who only has three 15-year-old athletes.

"Our first game was unexpected because the players were bigger, stronger, and faster," stated CNMI team captain Michael "Bo" Barry.

"All the players here are 14 and

above except us and are very skillful, but they don't have true fans like us," added Barry.

About eight parents from Saipan came to watch the opening match, and stayed throughout to support the boys and give encouragement.

Other Day 1 results saw Mongolia nipping host Guam, 5-3, and Hong Kong skunking Macau, 5-0.

UFO caging moves to JP Center court

 The 2010 United Filipino Organization Inter-Organizational Reinforced Basketball League will resume to-night at the JP Center Basketball Court instead at its original venue.

UFO vice president Paul Madriaga said the league will no longer use the Garapan Basketball Court and instead will play its games at the JP Center Basketball Court.

"UFO basketball league found a home at JP Court. The UFO league will continue the same game schedule on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays now at JP Center Basketball Court," he said.

The UFO caging started out its games at the strategically located Garapan court last June 27 but since then the organization has had trouble booking their games at the facility, which is also

used by other basketball organizations.

"Faced with some minor issues, UFO now has decided to give up the Garapan court for youth practice. We are glad that the management of Tan Holdings was able to accommodate UFO with the same game schedules," said Madriaga.

He added that UFO is allowed to use the court from 6pm to 10pm only and teams must show up ahead of time to avoid default. First game will start at exactly 6:30pm, while the second game begins at 8pm.

"UFO would like also to apologize to our major sponsors—Pepsi and Shell—teams and member organizations for the inconvenience brought by the delay and discontinuance of the games. Now that we have a new home, there are no more reasons for any delay except for the rain," said Madriaga.

Four teams sign up for beach soccer tourney

 Four teams have so far signed up for the first-ever Open Beach Soccer Tournament set for Aug. 14 at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

The hotel's Sports and Recreation manager, Lucio Aldan, is organizing the one-day event and said that aside from the four teams that have signed up, he expects 10 more teams to show up on tournament day.

A \$500 cash prize is up for grabs to the overall winner and \$300 will go to the runner-up team. Additionally, trophies will be awarded to the winners and other consolation prizes will also be awarded to various participants.

The tourney is an open format, which means that any combination of players, ages 16 and up can be on a team; teams can be all male, female or co-ed. All participants must be at least 16 years old.

There is a seven-player maximum per roster and games will be formatted with a five-on-five style of play. The other two players will serve as substitutes throughout each contest.

The entrance fee to participate is only \$30 per team and the official deadline for submission will be the morning of the tournament. However, Aldan said there are limited spots available so early registration is highly recommended.

A registration period will be allotted from 7am to 8am on Aug. 14, 2010 and the first game kicks off at 10am. No submissions will be accepted after 8am on the day of the tourney.

"The purpose of the tournament is to simply introduce this new sport to the community and we hope to formulate a beach soccer league some time in the future," said Aldan.

For early registration or more information, contact Aldan at 483-8832, 287-3191 or e-mail lucio_aldan@fiestasaipan.com. Interested participants can also register in person at the front desk of the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan. (Walter Sutherland)

Palacios, Rhodes invited to PXC

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



After his impressive victory over Predator Combat's "Tabi" Jay Muna in Friday night's Rites of Passage IX: Indestructible, "Badd" Brad Palacios has been invited to compete in the next Pacific Xtreme Combat event.

The Trench Tech fighter, along with Team ZengZung's Zachary Rhodes from Tinian, were invited to show their wares in PXC by no less than ROP 9 referee Tony D'Angelo.

"PXC is currently looking for some worthy 135 to 145 lb fighters to participate in title bouts and Palacios fits the criteria," said Trench Tech president Cuki Alvarez.

Palacios defeated Muna after the Predator Combat fighter could not answer the second round bell due to a knee injury.

It was still a great match up nonetheless, as both fighters utilized very different styles. Muna is very unpredictable and uses an unorthodox fighting style, while Palacios fought patiently waiting for a more calculated opportunity to attack.

Palacios fended off Muna's opening burst right after the first bell and executed a more technical approach.



WALTER SUTHERLAND
Trench Tech's "Badd" Brad Palacios is announced the winner of his bout against "Tabi" Jay Muna in Friday night's Rites of Passage IX: Indestructible at the Saipan World Resort.

Palacios is a strong wrestler for his size and maintained a dominant position for most of the first round.

While Muna is very fast and sneaky in his own right, Palacios was able to pin him down multiple times even after Muna managed to wiggle out from the bottom position. With the win Palacios improved his win-loss record to 6-3, while the loss was the eighth in 13 matches for Muna.

Rhodes, for his part, was granted his PXC invitation after defeating Joe "Da Combo" Duenas via referee stoppage due to strikes at the 1:20 mark of the first round.

PXC's amateur events are called "Preba Hao" which means, "prove yourself," similar to ROP, but on a bigger stage. Moreover, amateurs in PXC fight on the same card as the pros.

Other notable performances in last Friday's ROP 9, held at the Royal Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort, included Tinian's Craig "EarthQuake"

Borja vanquishing Saipan's Jason "Ground Maintenance" Teregeyo.

The ZengZung fighter defeated Teregeyo just 1:16 into the first round with an impressive triangle choke. The 140-lb Borja improved his perfect MMA record to 3-0, while Teregeyo is still looking for his first win in three tries.

The up-and-coming Borja may have showed a lot of promise last Friday, but next time he might be tested against a more experienced opponent with at least a win under his belt.

And even though Teregeyo lost three in a row, he still left a good impression on the talent scouts from Guam.

Saipan's Josh Cruz, meanwhile, won a split decision against ZengZung's George Manglona from Tinian in a 140-lb division bout that went an uncharacteristic four rounds. The win evened out Cruz's record to 1-1, while Manglona fell to 1-2.

In a 150-lb bout, Prescott Cabrera from Marianas Elite debuted and dealt Team Zalaka's John Ilo his second loss with a rear-naked choke at 1:20 into the second round.

Cabrera was penalized a point in the first round for attacking Ilo's windpipe, but recovered in the second round for the submission victory.

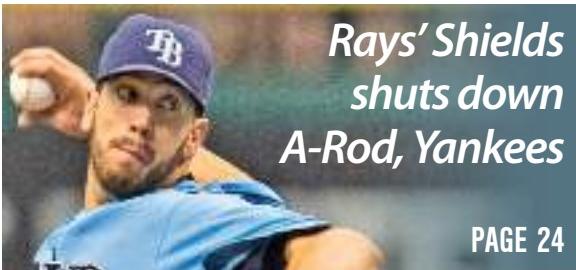
Team ZengZung's Conrad Manglona from Tinian defeated Saipan's Josh "Crush" Martin with an impres-

sive guillotine choke at 1:35 into the opening round.

As previously reported, heavyweight newcomer Franklin Faisao of Team Zalaka also made an impression on the scouts with his dominating victory over Trench Tech's Ton "ButDosa" Sablan at the one-minute mark of the second round.

"Although all the competitors fought valiantly, these were some of the [other] fighters that made an impression on the scouts. With a couple more fights under their belts and more impressive performances, these fighters may earn their 'Rites to Pass' onto more prestigious events in the region as well," added Alvarez.

Alvarez also acknowledged that both the Tinian fighters and fans showed up real big for ROP 9. A fan base of over a hundred strong made the trip from Tinian to support their warriors. Notably, four of the six Tinian fighters left ROP 9 with wins.



Rays' Shields
shuts down
A-Rod, Yankees

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports

Stuart Appleby
shoots 59 at
Greenbrier Classic

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28 TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2010

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CNMI women netters bag first gold



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The CNMI's Franco Flores delivers a pitch to a Pohnpei batter during the bottom of the fifth inning of their game in the 7th Micronesian Games at the Asahi Ball Field in Palau yesterday.

CNMI sluggers clobber Pohnpei

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

KOROR, Palau—Tyrone Omar received a pleasant birthday gift yesterday, as the CNMI routed Pohnpei, 12-1, in their first game in the baseball competition yesterday at the Asahi Ball Field here.

Omar celebrated his 23rd birthday yesterday and was thankful that this time, he had a win as a gift on his special day.

"I also had my birthday in Palau in 2005 during the Mini Games, but our team lost. Now, it felt great that on my birthday we won our first game," said Omar, who scored two runs in the CNMI's impressive debut, went 2-for-4, had a double, and one stolen base.

Catcher Manny Sablan, shortstop Shane Yamada, first baseman Ryan Ada, and designated hitter Eli Aughenbaugh also recorded two runs each for the CNMI.

See CNMI on Page 26



»
Kana Aikawa won her first two singles games in the 7th Micronesian games without dropping a single set to give the CNMI its first gold medal in Palau.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The CNMI's Rezne Wong, Michael Moran, Kensuke Kimura, and the Marshall Islands' Shawn Brady plunge into the pool during the qualifying race in the 100m butterfly event in the 7th Micronesian Games yesterday at the Palau National Swimming Pool in Meyuns.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

IRAI, Palau—The CNMI Women's Tennis Team struck first in the 7th Micronesian Games, earning the quadrennial event's first gold medal after beating rival Guam in yesterday's finals, 2-1.

"Tia de Prerii" Again, Mayuko Arriola and Kana Aikawa provided the needed wins for the CNMI, as they prevailed in their separate singles matches at the Airai Tennis Court.

See GOLD on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

From left, the CNMI's Rezne Wong, Michael Moran, Kensuke Kimura, and the Marshall Islands' Shawn Brady plunge into the pool during the qualifying race in the 100m butterfly event in the 7th Micronesian Games yesterday at the Palau National Swimming Pool in Meyuns.

Swimmers boost chances for medals in Day 1

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MEYUNS, Palau—The CNMI remained on target in Day 1 of the medal rich swim-

ming competition in the 7th Micronesian Games after advancing to the finals in majority of the races scheduled yesterday at the Palau National Swimming Pool here.

Rezne Wong and Kensuke Kimura were the first CNMI swimmers to plunge into action and were also the Top 2 finishers in the preliminary

See SWIMMERS on Page 26

Pohnpei men edge CNMI

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

KOROR, Palau—As players slipped on the varnished court of the Palau National Stadium, so did the CNMI Men's Nationals' chances of having a winning debut in the basketball competition of the 7th Micronesian Games here.

The CNMI Men's Nationals bowed to Pohnpei, 71-67, losing their lead in the first half and failing to recover in the closing minutes of the fourth quarter.

The CNMI-Pohnpei duel was

See POHNPEI on Page 26



The CNMI's Pete Iguel and Pohnpei's William Hawley battles for the loose ball on the slippery court at the Palau National Gymnasium yesterday during the opening day of basketball competition in the 7th Micronesian Games.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

IT&E Life in Motion

7th Micro Games MEDAL TALLY

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
CNMI	1	0	0	1
Guam	0	1	0	1
Pohnpei	0	0	1	1
Chuuk	0	0	0	0
Kosrae	0	0	0	0
Marshalls	0	0	0	0
Palau	0	0	0	0
Yap	0	0	0	0

As of 5pm Aug. 2, Palau time.

IT&E supports our local athletes!